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Travel Demand Model Performance Summary

After finalizing the fiscally constrained project list, the TPO’s regional travel demand model was used to assess the performance of the transportation system with and without the projects. A comparison of common transportation system performance metrics are provided in Table X, both in the base year and the final horizon year of the Mobility Plan, which is 2050. For the year 2050 two separate scenarios were run in the model – one using the roadway network as it existed in 2022 and the other using the roadway network with all of the fiscally constrained road projects being implemented. This allows us a glimpse into what the future might look like if the population and employment growth expected in the TPO Region between now and 2050 all showed up overnight.

Travel Demand Model Output Statistics - 2050 Mobility Plan for TPO Planning Area

| Performance Metric | 2022 Base Year | 2050 (Base Network) | 2050 (Mobility Plan Projects) | % Change from 2022 | % Change 2050 Scenarios |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Population Estimate | 756,349 | 913,935 | | 20.8% | |
| DVMT (veh-miles per day) | 20,011,194 | 23,842,698 | 24,691,675 | 23.4% | 3.6% |
| DVHT (veh-hours per day) | 511,166 | 657,086 | 645,228 | 26.2% | -1.8% |
| Daily Avg Speed (mph) | 39.1 | 36.3 | 38.3 | -2.2% | 5.5% |
| Hours of Delay (hours per day) | 119,433 | 188,164 | 165,644 | 38.7% | -12.0% |
| Percent Time Congested | 16.3% | 18.8% | 17.6% | 7.9% | -6.4% |
| VMT at LOS F | 5,301,754 | 9,130,401 | 8,004,330 | 51.0% | -12.3% |

An explanation of the metrics that were compared are as follows:

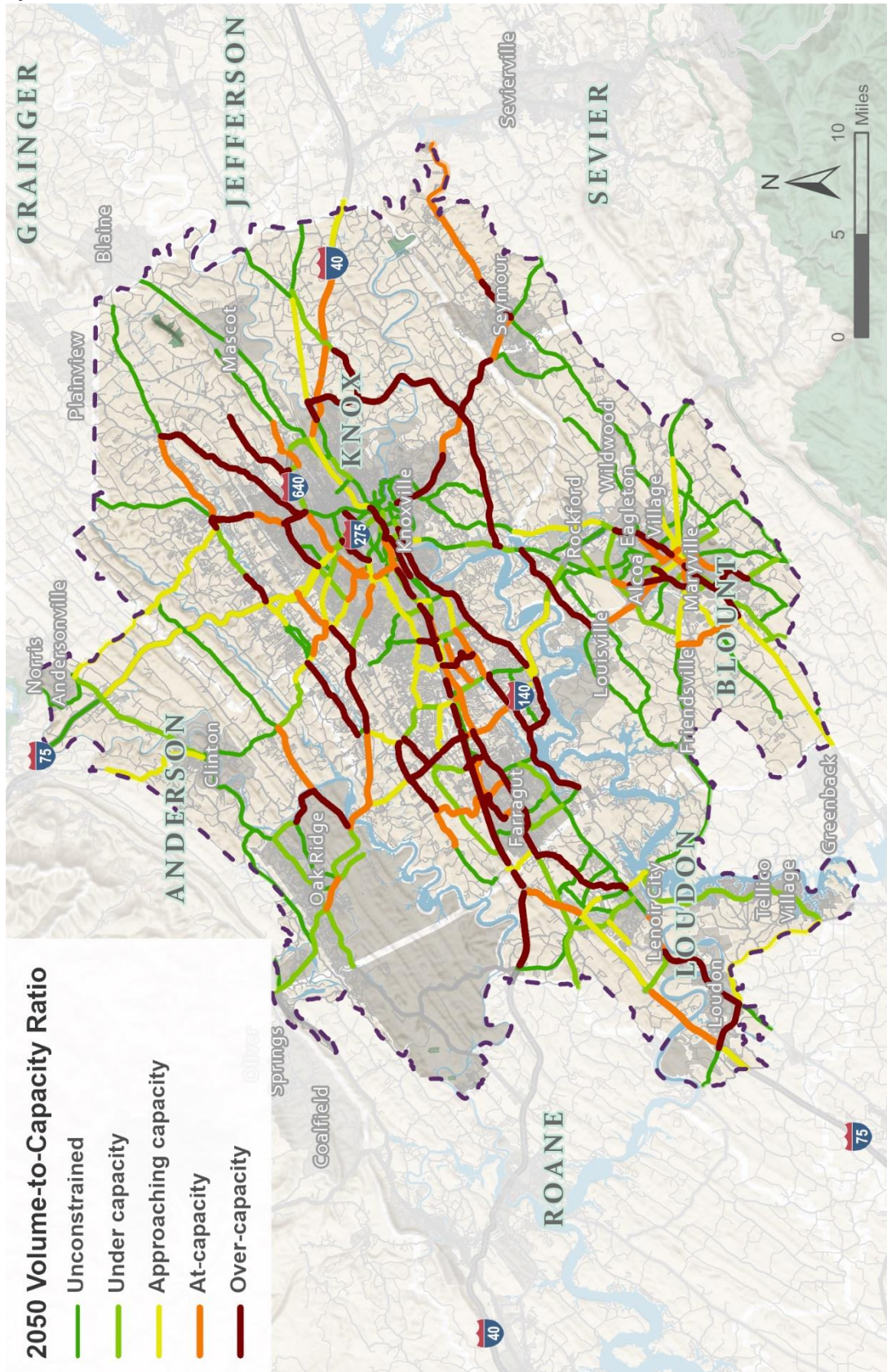
- Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled (DVMT) – This is a measure of total amount of vehicular travel on the regional roadway system on an average day. It is computed by multiplying the volume of traffic on a roadway segment by its length.
- Daily Vehicle Hours Traveled (DVHT) – Similar to DVMT, this is the total time spent by vehicles operating on regional roadways on an average day.
- Daily Average Speed – This is computed by dividing DVMT by DVHT and can provide an indication of operating efficiency or overall congestion.
- Hours of Delay – This is a metric computed from post-processing the travel demand model outputs and aggregating travel times where actual speed is less than the free-flow speed.
- Percent Time Congested – Also a metric computed by the model as a function of the overall time per day that vehicles experience poor “Level of Service” conditions indicating congestion.
- VMT at LOS F – This is a measure of the vehicle travel that occurs on roadway segments that are expected to operate at the poorest level-of-service, another indicator of congestion levels.

Therefore, the metrics shown in Table X indicate how efficiently the roadway system within the TPO’s planning area operates with the planned project investments. It can be observed however that even with the implementation of all the fiscally constrained projects that the expected increase in travel activity from the higher population and employment will likely result in more delay and congestion in the year 2050 than was present in 2022. Some of the major takeaways are as follows:

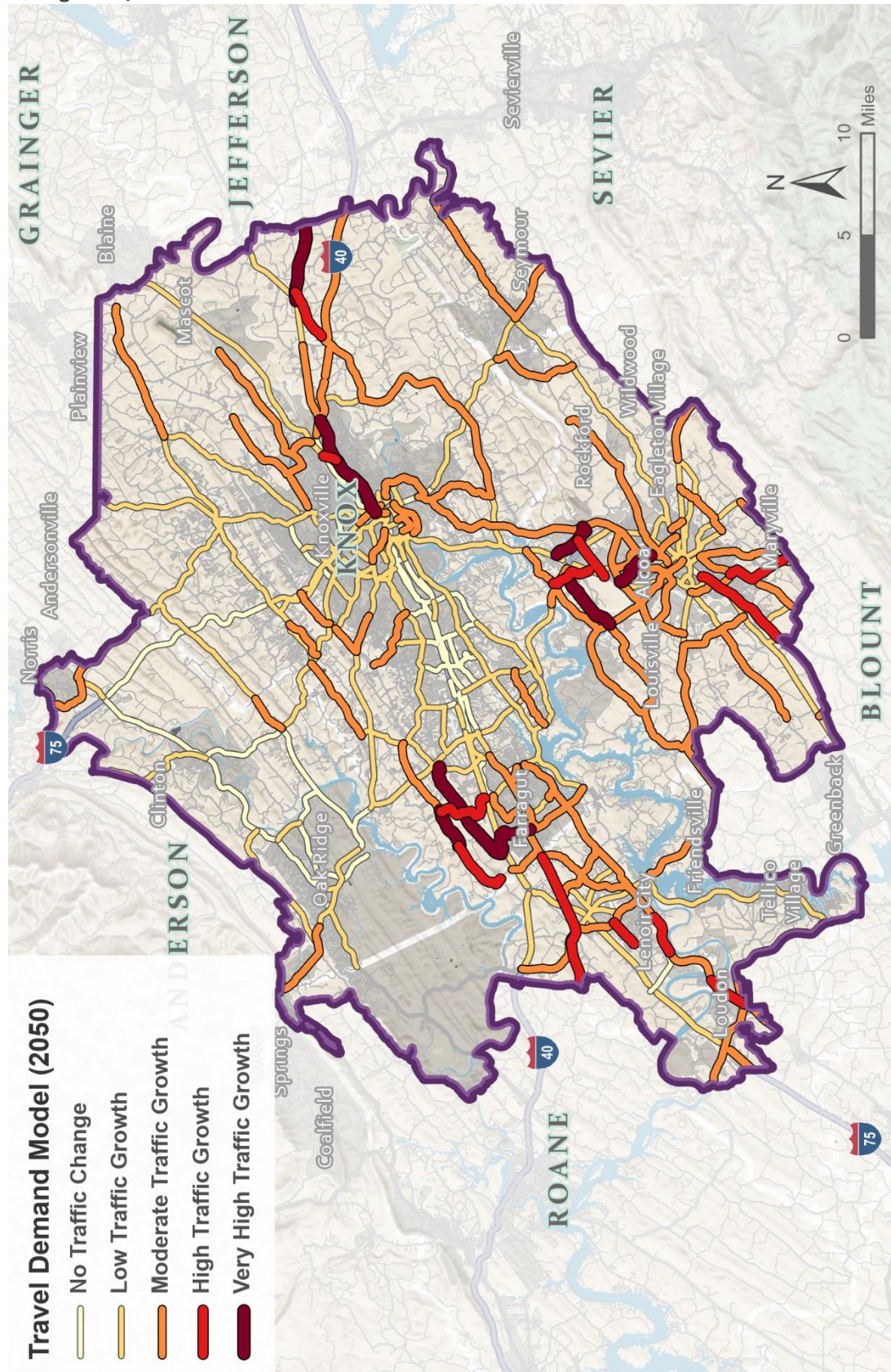
- Vehicle Miles Traveled is expected to outpace the growth in population, which can be an indicator of the continued dispersed development patterns of population and employment in the Region leading to longer average trip lengths.
- Delay and Congestion both increase significantly in the future although the project implementation is shown to be very beneficial as metrics such as the VMT on roadways with level-of-service F rating and Hours of Delay are both around 12% less in the “build” versus “no-build” scenario.

The travel demand model was also an important tool used to evaluate each roadway’s congestion level in order to help target those that are most congested for potential improvement projects, for more information see Appendix D for the Congestion Management Process (CMP). It is important to note that the travel demand model is *not able to account for* improvements to the transportation system generated by projects that do not increase roadway capacity (e.g., greenway, sidewalk, transit, or bikeway projects) but these are also critical to achieving efficient mobility in light of constraints both fiscally and environmentally along with other impacts from major roadway construction.

V/C for FY 2050 network



Change in V/C between FY2050 – BY2022 networks



**Knoxville Regional Travel Model
2022 Base Year Update –
Development of Traffic Analysis
Zone (TAZ) Socioeconomic Data and
Roadway Network**

**Final
9/30/2024**

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I. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide details of the development of the updated base year socioeconomic data and transportation (roadway) network to represent year 2022 conditions for the Knoxville Regional Travel Demand Forecasting Model (KRTM). This update effort is being undertaken to support the regular 4-year update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Knoxville Regional TPO Planning Area, known as Mobility Plan 2050. These elements are both integral to meeting federal transportation planning regulations (23 CFR 450.324) that state, in part – “In updating the transportation plan, the MPO shall base the update on the latest available estimates and assumptions for population, land use, etc.”.

The remainder of this document is organized into two main sections - one covering the development of population, demographics and employment (collectively known as ‘socioeconomic characteristics’) for the base year (2022) Traffic Analysis Zone system (TAZ) as well as establishing future-year county level control totals for population and employment; and the other section covering the travel demand forecasting model 2022 base year roadway network update.

II. Socioeconomic Data

With each update of the MTP, it is important to establish an updated base year in which all necessary data is available for the attributes required to run the KRTM. This process also involves the formal establishment of future-year control totals of the key variables of population and employment through a review of previous forecasts to ensure that they are: (1) still valid and relevant and (2) if they need to be extended further into the future to match the MTP’s updated horizon year. In the case of the Mobility Plan2050, it was determined that 2022 should be the base year since that was the most recent year with full data availability when the MTP development started in late 2023 and the population/employment forecast would need to be extended from the latest year available of 2045 in the previous MTP out to 2050. The year 2050 was chosen in order to cover the minimum required 20-year horizon beyond the adoption date of the new MTP in 2025.

BACKGROUND ON KRTM AND TAZ ATTRIBUTES

In order to project future conditions of the roadway system the TPO uses a computer-modeling tool known as a travel demand forecasting model. The Knoxville Regional Travel Demand Model (KRTM) is calibrated to closely replicate existing traffic patterns in the Knoxville Region to provide a means of forecasting future traffic volumes and resulting areas of potential congestion. It is also used to support the air quality conformity analysis that is required for the Knoxville Region since it is an air quality Maintenance Area for both Ozone and PM2.5. The model covers the primary roadway network in a 10-county area that includes Anderson, Blount, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Roane, Sevier, and Union counties. To develop the model, mathematical relationships between travel activity and household socioeconomic characteristics were derived from extensive travel behavior surveys that were conducted in the years 2000 and 2008. In these surveys, approximately 3,000 households in the Knoxville Region were asked to record their travels in a one-day period including:

- Purpose of the trip
- Origin and destination of each trip
- Mode of transportation used
- Time of day trip was made

The model was developed based on the assumption that households with similar socio-economic characteristics such as household income, number of school-age children, and vehicle ownership would demonstrate similar travel activity. These household characteristics are available primarily from the U.S. Census Bureau and are input into the model based on their distribution across TAZs the Knoxville Region.

The current model has its origins back to 2012 when an update was completed to calibrate and validate the model using 2010 Decennial Census data. Since that time three minor updates have been completed – one for the prior Mobility Plan 2040 and Mobility Plan 2045 and one now for Mobility Plan 2050. In those minor updates the model has been validated against new base years of available data – 2014, 2018 and 2022 respectively. A major model update is being planned for the next Mobility Plan following this one since a major new household travel behavior survey is anticipated to be conducted in Spring 2025 and will not be available prior to this Plan adoption.

Table 1 on the following page provides an explanation of the data fields in the TAZ geographic file:

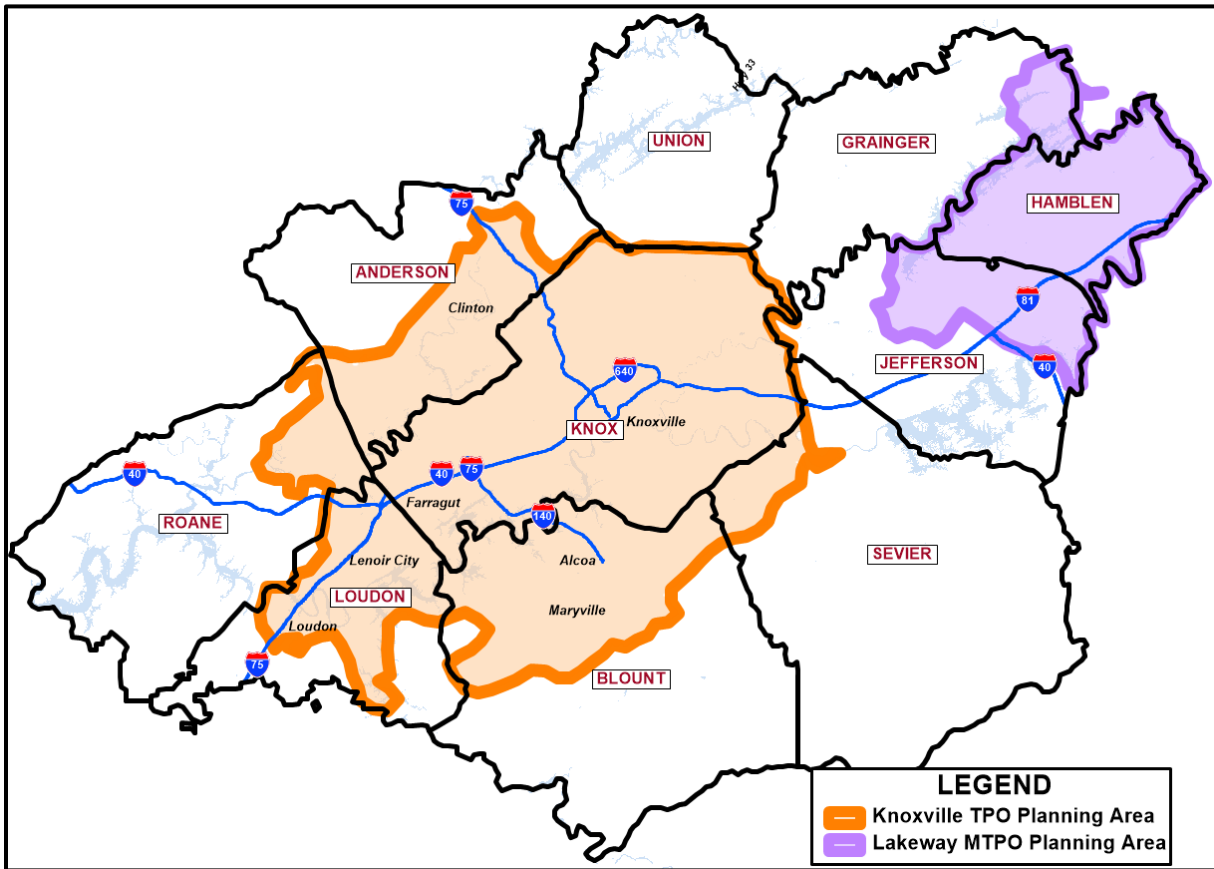
Table 1 – TAZ Attributes

| Field Name | Description |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| TAZID | Unique ID |
| Area | Area of TAZ in sq. miles |
| CO_NAME | County Name |
| TOTPOP | Total Population |
| HHPOP | Population in Households |
| GQPOP | Population in Group Quarters |
| HH | Number of Households |
| AVGHHSIZE | Average Household Size |
| AVG_MEDHHINC | Average Median HH Income |
| WRKR_PER_HH | Workers per Household |
| STD_PER_HH | Students per Household |
| PCT_HH_W_SR | Percent of HH with Senior (65+) |
| Enroll_K12 | K-12 School Enrollment |
| Univ_Stdnts | UT Student Residence Location |
| UNIV_ENROLL | College/University Enrollment |
| Basic Emp | Basic Employment |
| Industrial Emp | Industrial/Manufacturing Employment |
| Retail Emp | Retail Employment |
| Service Emp | Service Employment |
| Total Emp | Total Employment |

POPULATION

The amount of travel activity in the Knoxville Region is directly related to the number of people living here, which is why it is important to establish the base year and future year population totals as a first step in each major update of the MTP. The official Planning Area boundaries of the Knoxville Regional TPO include portions of six counties including Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, Roane and Sevier. Additionally, the TPO’s travel demand model includes four other counties of: Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson and Union for which population data is required. The travel demand model is also used to support the MTP update for the separate Lakeway Area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (LAMTPO) which includes all of Hamblen County and a large portion of Jefferson County plus a small part of Grainger County. The entire study area along with the planning area boundaries of the Knoxville Regional TPO and LAMTPO are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 - Travel Demand Model Study Area



The population totals for each of the ten counties were obtained for the base year 2022 from the U.S. Census “Population Estimates Program” which are released on an annual basis and represent the estimated county-level population as of July 1 for the reference year. The future year 2050 population forecast for each county were selected through a process of reviewing two primary sources of population projection data – “2018 – 2070 Projections” from the University of Tennessee (UT) Center for Business & Economic Research (CBER) and “2023 Regional Projections” from Woods & Poole, Inc. (W&P). Following the review of the two sources, the TPO staff recommended using the W&P source for the population forecasts as it is similar to CBER’s forecast for population changes and it also provides projections for several other needed socioeconomic variables. The TPO Executive Board endorsed the staff recommendation of W&P as the source for future year county-level population forecasts at its April 24, 2024 meeting. Table 2 provides the 10-county population totals for the base year 2022 and future years of 2030, 2040 and 2050 to support the Mobility Plan 2050 development and travel demand model.

Table 2 – Population Forecasts

| County, Population | 2022¹ | 2030² | 2040² | 2050² |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anderson | 78,913 | 81,214 | 83,170 | 84,591 |
| Blount | 139,958 | 150,620 | 163,105 | 175,416 |
| Grainger | 24,277 | 25,115 | 26,202 | 27,337 |
| Hamblen | 65,168 | 67,885 | 70,579 | 72,878 |
| Jefferson | 56,727 | 60,473 | 64,714 | 68,779 |
| Knox | 494,574 | 525,477 | 559,996 | 592,702 |
| Loudon | 58,181 | 63,414 | 69,770 | 76,239 |
| Roane | 55,082 | 56,264 | 57,079 | 57,511 |
| Sevier | 98,789 | 108,778 | 121,217 | 134,155 |
| Union | 20,452 | 21,166 | 22,094 | 23,062 |
| Total | 1,092,121 | 1,160,406 | 1,237,926 | 1,312,670 |

1 - From Census Annual County Population Estimates data series, 2022 vintage (as of July 1, 2022)

2 - From Woods & Poole Economics, 2023 Regional Projections and Database

The population forecasts for the Mobility Plan 2050 update are representative of a few competing recent trends affecting population change such as the continuation of overall declining birth rates and a recent increase in mortality likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic leading to reduced population, but these effects are balanced by the relatively high amount of net positive in-migration to the State of Tennessee and Knoxville Region leading to overall positive expected population growth.

In terms of disaggregating the county-level population control totals shown in the table above to the KRTM TAZ-level, the TPO staff utilized a product from the company Applied Geographic Solutions (AGS) known as the “Estimates and Projections” database which provided all variables needed for the 2022 base year at the smallest census geography of Census Blocks. The AGS data specifically corrects for new Census privacy and disclosure proofing that creates intentional errors at small geographic scales. AGS has several blog posts such as this [one](#) regarding implausible Census data that can show phenomena like “ghost communities” where there are Census Blocks showing occupied dwellings with zero population. The full AGS methodology is available at their website [here](#).

EMPLOYMENT

In addition to population, another important variable influencing travel, and in particular the specific areas where travel occurs, is the amount of employment in the Knoxville Region. The locations of employment (jobs) represent trip attractions for both the basic need of the worker to be at their place of work as well

as locations where commerce or other necessary daily activities such as grocery shopping or attending medical appointments occur. The TPO travel demand model categorizes employment into four major types of: Basic (farming, construction), Industrial (manufacturing, wholesale trade), Service (professional, educational services) and Retail (shopping, accommodation, food services) since each type exhibits significantly different characteristics in the type of trips generated. For example, retail employment tends to attract trips from workers as well as patrons whereas industrial employment will attract primarily worker trips as well as commercial vehicle (truck) trips to distribute finished or unfinished goods.

Unlike population, there is not necessarily a definitive source of the amount of employment in each county that is enumerated as with the decennial Census. Two primary sources of employment data come from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). In general, the BEA estimate of employment produces a significantly higher number of jobs than the BLS estimate for the same county. The BLS employment estimates are lower in part because agricultural workers, the military, sole proprietors and other miscellaneous workers are excluded. The manner in which proprietorship employment is treated appears to account for the largest difference in terms of the BEA versus BLS estimates for the Knoxville Region since there are no large military bases or significant amount of farm employment. For example, the BEA (and W&P) employment estimates will double-count a person who has a full-time salary job and in their “spare” time (nights/weekends) runs a small business (proprietorship) from their home.

After reviewing the data sources, the TPO staff developed a modified estimate of total county-level employment utilizing a combination of the BEA and BLS estimates at the 2-digit NAICS code level (see Appendix A for documentation of the factors that were applied to each category). The county-level totals derived using this combination compared favorably with the summation of individual establishment-level employment data that was obtained through the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) from the company known as InfoGroup that is described further in Appendix A. Since the base year 2022 employment derived by this method is lower than the W&P employment that is used to provide future-year employment projections, the TPO staff applied a growth factor from W&P to each of the future analysis years out to 2050 as shown in Table 3. Additionally, Table 4 shows the effects of the differing growth rates of employment by the major sectors previously documented of: Basic, Industrial, Retail and Service that continue the historical trends towards fewer manufacturing and similar job categories compared with more jobs in the retail and service sectors.

Table 3 - Employment Forecasts

| County, Employment | 2022 ¹ | 2030 ² | 2040 ² | 2050 ² |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anderson | 49,750 | 51,281 | 53,413 | 54,834 |
| Blount | 66,473 | 75,592 | 87,766 | 101,240 |
| Grainger | 6,760 | 7,029 | 7,450 | 7,834 |
| Hamblen | 38,475 | 40,477 | 42,718 | 44,869 |
| Jefferson | 19,139 | 20,727 | 23,005 | 25,356 |
| Knox | 306,232 | 339,499 | 381,864 | 424,343 |
| Loudon | 22,555 | 24,118 | 26,987 | 30,001 |
| Roane | 24,296 | 25,820 | 27,538 | 28,913 |
| Sevier | 62,834 | 72,500 | 85,817 | 100,899 |
| Union | 4,477 | 5,035 | 5,719 | 6,502 |
| Total | 600,989 | 662,078 | 742,277 | 824,791 |

1 - Developed from an adjustment of Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) employment data

2 - From Woods & Poole Economics, 2023 Regional Projections and Database - used percent growth to generate projection factor for 2022 base year

Table 4 - Employment Forecast by Sector

| Employment Sector | 2022 | 2030 | 2040 | 2050 | Growth% (2022-2050) |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Basic | 51,347 | 50,159 | 50,913 | 51,710 | 2.4% |
| Industrial | 102,896 | 102,045 | 104,316 | 106,294 | 4.6% |
| Retail | 138,946 | 152,873 | 169,362 | 186,009 | 32.2% |
| Service | 307,800 | 357,001 | 417,686 | 480,778 | 53.0% |
| Total | 600,989 | 662,078 | 742,277 | 824,791 | 35.9% |

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Updated school enrollment data for 2022 for both public and private schools throughout the 10-county travel demand model study area was obtained through the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The base year 2022 enrollment data was compared against the year 2022 estimated school-age (5-17) population count from the W&P data source and found to be in very good agreement. Therefore, the growth rate from the projected W&P data was applied to 2022 base year enrollment in order to develop the future-year projections at the county level as shown in Table 5:

Table 5 - School (K-12) Enrollment Forecasts

| County, K-12 Enrollment | 2022 ¹ | 2030 ² | 2040 ² | 2050 ² |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anderson | 12,303 | 11,838 | 11,718 | 11,751 |
| Blount | 19,008 | 19,826 | 20,454 | 22,302 |
| Grainger | 3,112 | 2,862 | 3,013 | 3,189 |
| Hamblen | 10,620 | 10,179 | 10,034 | 10,521 |
| Jefferson | 7,550 | 7,254 | 7,814 | 8,611 |
| Knox | 69,922 | 72,992 | 79,374 | 84,953 |
| Loudon | 7,394 | 7,086 | 7,467 | 8,249 |
| Roane | 7,805 | 7,353 | 7,366 | 7,435 |
| Sevier | 14,931 | 15,450 | 17,420 | 19,911 |
| Union | 2,869 | 2,576 | 2,676 | 2,794 |
| Total | 155,514 | 156,347 | 167,243 | 179,716 |

1 – National Center for Educational Statistics

2 - Growth rates applied from Woods & Poole Economics, 2023 Regional Projections and Database

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

The regional travel demand model utilizes average socioeconomic and other demographic variables to inform some travel behavior characteristics that differentiate one household type from another. The key variables used in the model that have been found to have statistically significant effects on trip making either directly or indirectly are: Median Household Income, Percent Households with Seniors (age > 65), Workers per Household and Students per Household. These variables were all updated utilizing the AGS product described previously in addition to the most current 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) data from 2018-2022, which is available at the Block Group level. Note, the Vehicles per Household variable is derived from a vehicle ownership model.

These types of demographic variables can be extremely challenging to forecast for out-years of the planning horizon at the sub-county level and most are used in terms of percentages and ratios, so they do not represent a specific number. Based on that fact, and in keeping with past practice, these variables with the exception of Percent Households with Seniors and Students per Household are left constant for all forecast years except in cases where it is known that a TAZ is experiencing major new greenfield developments or gentrification that are expected to significantly change existing TAZ characteristics. In these cases, the attributes from a similar existing TAZ are borrowed. In terms of the Senior Households variable, there is a known “aging of the population” phenomenon that is also exhibited in the W&P forecasts of the Senior population and its percentage of total county population. Table 6 shows the

county-by-county rates of increase of Senior population and these are applied as factors uniformly across the TAZs in each specific county. Similarly, along with overall aging population it would be expected that the number of students per household would decrease. Table 7 shows the county-by-county rates of change for Students per Household.

Table 6 – Senior Population (Age 65 years and older) Percentage of Total Population Forecast

| County, % Senior Population | 2022 | 2030 | 2040 | 2050 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Anderson | 21.9% | 25.9% | 28.3% | 29.8% |
| Blount | 22.1% | 26.1% | 28.1% | 27.4% |
| Grainger | 22.6% | 26.2% | 28.5% | 26.9% |
| Hamblen | 19.3% | 22.4% | 25.0% | 25.4% |
| Jefferson | 22.1% | 26.3% | 28.5% | 26.9% |
| Knox | 17.0% | 19.4% | 19.8% | 19.6% |
| Loudon | 28.7% | 32.9% | 35.5% | 35.7% |
| Roane | 25.1% | 29.2% | 31.2% | 30.8% |
| Sevier | 21.7% | 25.5% | 26.8% | 25.2% |
| Union | 20.1% | 24.7% | 26.5% | 25.3% |

Table 7 - Students per Household Forecast

| County, Students per HH | 2022 | 2030 | 2040 | 2050 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Anderson | 0.36 | 0.33 | 0.32 | 0.32 |
| Blount | 0.35 | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.32 |
| Grainger | 0.33 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0.30 |
| Hamblen | 0.41 | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.37 |
| Jefferson | 0.35 | 0.31 | 0.32 | 0.33 |
| Knox | 0.36 | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.36 |
| Loudon | 0.33 | 0.29 | 0.28 | 0.28 |
| Roane | 0.31 | 0.28 | 0.27 | 0.28 |
| Sevier | 0.35 | 0.32 | 0.33 | 0.34 |
| Union | 0.38 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.32 |

TAZ ALLOCATION

To this point the focus has been on the county-level basis for the needed variables, which are termed as the “Control Totals” when considering the forecasted values. The KRTM needs inputs of these variables to be allocated to much smaller levels of geography known as Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ). There are

tradeoffs between the size of TAZ and the amount of confidence one can have in allocating future growth and the overall level of detail in the model. In general, the amount of TAZs is directly proportional to the level of detail of the roadway network as roadways generally form the boundaries of a TAZ. In a previous minor update of the KRTM, the number of TAZs was increased from 1,153 to 1,173 with the addition of greater roadway network detail in the LAMTPO Region of Hamblen and Jefferson counties. Knox County has the greatest number of TAZs at 508.

To allocate the future growth of population and employment from the county control total amounts to the smaller TAZs, the TPO staff consulted with planning staffs and stakeholders from each jurisdiction within the TPO and LAMTPO area. Information on locations of proposed developments and other likely development areas of the various jurisdictions was obtained to inform the allocation and then subsequently reviewed with stakeholders to determine the overall reasonableness. This exercise is inherently challenging due to the unforeseen things that can influence development patterns, but should provide a “best guess” that represents current knowledge and can be updated as needed to account for major changes with each subsequent Mobility Plan 4-year update cycle. Table 8 shows the amount of total population and employment increase for each county between 2022 and 2050 that must be allocated to the TAZs and Appendix D includes maps showing the general distribution of population and employment growth:

Table 8 - Population and Employment Allocation by County

| 2022- 2050 Allocation | Population | Employment |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anderson | 5,678 | 5,084 |
| Blount | 35,458 | 34,767 |
| Grainger | 3,060 | 1,074 |
| Hamblen | 7,710 | 6,394 |
| Jefferson | 12,052 | 6,217 |
| Knox | 98,128 | 118,111 |
| Loudon | 18,058 | 7,447 |
| Roane | 2,429 | 4,618 |
| Sevier | 35,366 | 38,066 |
| Union | 2,610 | 2,026 |
| Total | 220,549 | 223,802 |

III. Model Roadway Network Data

ROADWAY NETWORK BACKGROUND

As previously mentioned, the KRTM is a mathematical representation of reality and its backbone in terms of inputs are the roadway network attributes and the socioeconomic characteristics at the Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level.

The roadway network is represented in a Geographic Information System (GIS) as a system of links and nodes. Each link in the model represents a segment of roadway that is described by several attributes, including:

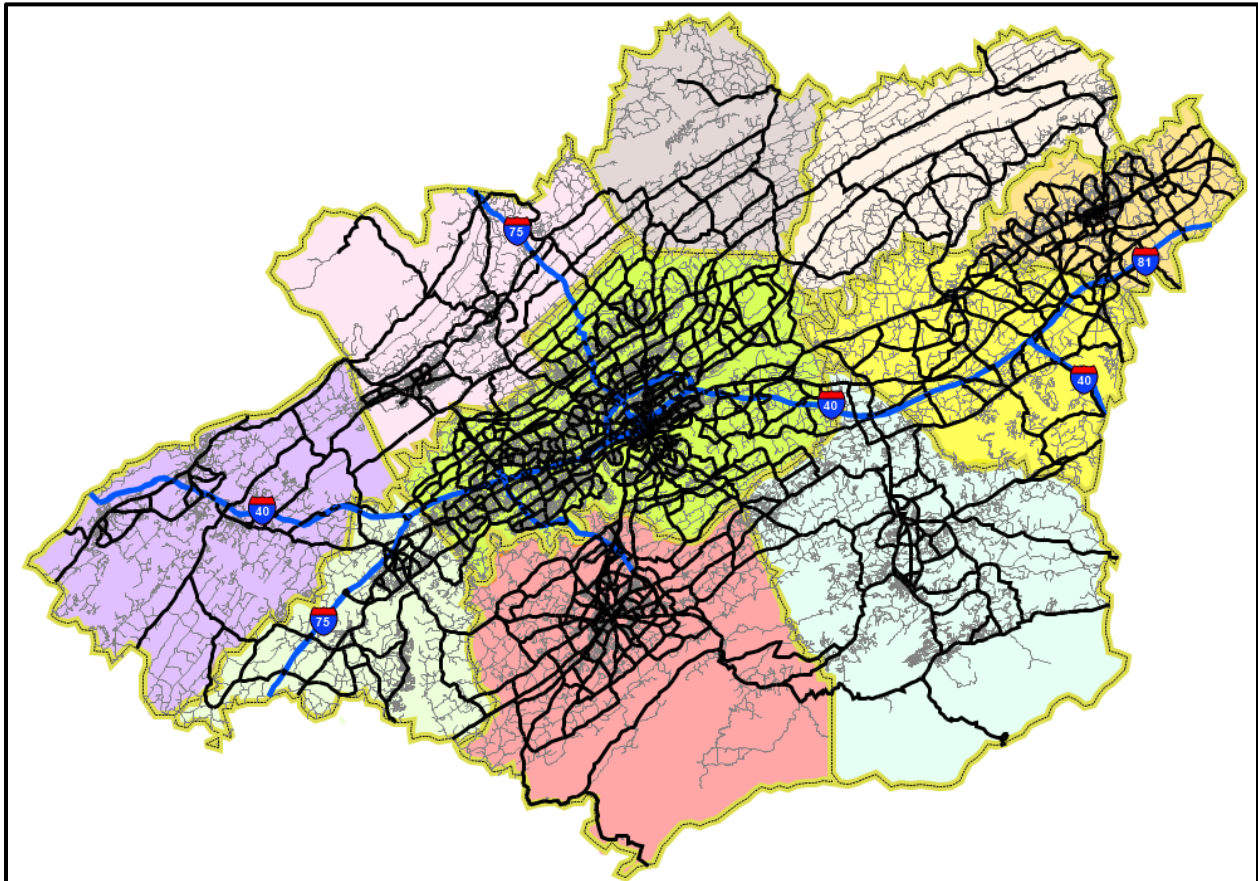
- Functional classification
- Speed limit
- Number of lanes
- Pavement width
- Level of access control
- Whether it is divided by a median

The Nodes represent intersections, locations of traffic signals, and places where roadway characteristics might change in the middle of a segment (such as where a road narrows). Roadway attributes are used to determine the vehicular capacity and travel time along each link in the model network. The model can therefore be used to test alternative improvement strategies by changing appropriate attributes such as increasing the number of lanes or by coding in a new link to represent construction of a new roadway.

In addition to the roadway attributes several other reference fields are coded into the roadway network including the actual traffic counts where available. Traffic counts are conducted on an annual basis by both TDOT and the Knoxville TPO and are important in being able to validate and ground-truth the model to ensure it is accurately replicating actual traffic patterns. More information on model validation is provided in a separate report, but an important aspect that was discovered in compiling count data is the potentially implausible Interstate count volumes for the base year of 2022. Appendix C provides details on the issues discovered and the updates that were made to correct for this.

The model primarily includes major roadways, i.e. ones that are functionally classified as Collector and higher since those are the facilities for which performance is of utmost importance. In total there are just over 3,250 centerline miles of roadways included in the KRTM network for the entire 10-county study area. Figure 2 illustrates the model network in the dark black lines plus the Interstate system which is shown in blue. The “non-modeled” network is shown in the light gray lines. In general, greater network detail is provided within the core Knoxville TPO and Lakeway MTPO planning regions as compared with the other, more rural areas of the model study area.

Figure 2 - Travel Demand Model Roadway Network



EXISTING PLUS COMMITTED ROADWAY NETWORK

The primary purpose of the model is to forecast needs and deficiencies for the roadway network in the future assuming that population and economic activity continue to grow, but no improvement projects are undertaken beyond what is known as the “Existing plus Committed” or E+C network. The model roadway network was first updated to account for changes that have happened since the prior base year of 2018 to the new 2022 base year that was used in the validation process– this is known as the “Existing”

network. The primary changes since 2018 resulted from roadway projects that were completed. Table 9 is a listing of major capacity-addition projects that were completed between 2018 and 2022.

Table 9 - Major Roadway Projects Completed between 2018 and 2022

| Project Name | KRMP ID | Termini | Length (miles) | Project Description | Status |
|--|---------|---|----------------|---|-------------------|
| Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) | 09-627 | Maloney Rd to Woodson Dr | 1.4 | Widen 4-lane to 6-lane | Completed in 2022 |
| Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) | 09-208 | Hall Rd (SR-35) to proposed interchange at Tyson Blvd | 1.3 | Widen from 4-lane divided to a 6-lane divided highway. Extend Tyson Boulevard under SR-115 and reconstruct Hunt Rd overpass | Completed in 2022 |
| Chapman Hwy (US-441/SR-71) | 09-626b | Evans Rd to Burnett Ln | 0.9 | Add center turn lane | Completed in 2021 |
| Chapman Hwy (US-441/SR-71) | 09-508 | Boyds Creek Hwy (SR-338) to Macon Ln | 1.2 | Add center turn lane | Completed in 2022 |
| Concord Rd (SR-332) | 09-632 | Turkey Creek Rd to Northshore Dr (SR-332) | 0.8 | Widen from 2 to 4/5 lanes | Completed in 2021 |
| I-275 Industrial Park Access | 09-618 | W. Fifth Ave to Baxter Ave | 0.5 | Blackstock Ave: extend from Fifth Ave. to Bernard Ave.; Marion St: realign | Completed in 2022 |
| I-640 at Broadway Interchange | 09-611 | I-640 at Broadway | 0 | Reconstruct and Relocate Ramps | Completed in 2021 |
| Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162/I-140) and Dutchtown Rd Interchange | 09-623 | I-40 to Dutchtown Rd Interchange | 0.4 | Widen Pellissippi Pkwy from 1 to 2 lanes westbound and lengthen storage of westbound off-ramp at Dutchtown Road interchange | Completed in 2021 |
| Pellissippi Pkwy/Hardin Valley Interchange | 09-634 | Interchange at Hardin Valley Rd | 0 | Reconfigure existing interchange to improve safety and operations. Add new northbound on-ramp in NE quadrant | Completed in 2022 |
| Robert C. Jackson Drive Extension | 09-238 | Lamar Alexander Pkwy (US-321/SR-73) to Morganton Rd | 1.2 | Construct new 2-lane roadway with sidewalks | Completed in 2021 |

| Project Name | KRMP ID | Termini | Length (miles) | Project Description | Status |
|----------------------------------|---------|---|----------------|--|-------------------|
| US 129 Widening | 17-204 | Mall Rd to Lamar Alexander Pkwy (US-321/SR-73) | 0.7 | Intersection improvements at W. Lamar Alexander Pkwy (US-321/SR-73) and addition of turn lanes | Completed in 2020 |
| US 129 Widening | 17-203 | Foothills Mall Dr to Mall Rd | 0.3 | Intersection improvements at Foothills Mall Dr/Montgomery Ln and addition of turn lanes | Completed in 2022 |
| US-321 (SR-73) Widening | 09-423 | E. Simpson Rd to north of SR-2 (US-11) in Lenoir City | 1.4 | Widen from 4 to 6 lanes | Completed in 2021 |
| Western Ave (SR-62) Widening | 09-610 | Texas Ave to Major Ave | 0.8 | Widen from 2 to 5 lanes | Completed in 2020 |
| US 411 Widening Jefferson County | N/A | SR-92 to Grapevine Hollow Rd | 2.6 | Widen 2-4 lane and new 4-lane | Completed 2022 |
| SR-66 Relocated | N/A | North of I-81 to SR-160 | 5.7 | Widen 2-4 lane and new 4-lane | Completed in 2020 |
| Tesla Blvd | 13-201 | Associates Blvd to Hunt Rd (SR-335) | 1.2 | Construct new 4-lane | Completed in 2018 |
| Marconi Blvd | 13-206 | Tesla Blvd to Springbrook Rd | 0.8 | Construct new 2-lane and 3-lane | Completed in 2022 |

In addition to the projects that were completed by 2022, other projects are considered to be “Committed” since it is reasonably certain that these will occur based on current expectations. The specific definition of a “Committed Project” for the purposes of Mobility Plan 2050 is that the project must either be currently under construction or is very likely to go to construction by July 2025 (when the new Mobility Plan takes effect). There is one minor exception to this rule that was made for two phases of Alcoa Highway (US-129/SR-115) which are not currently programmed for construction, but are assumed to be committed since all other segments of Alcoa Highway are either currently under construction or programmed for construction by FY 2026. The E+C projects form the baseline network with which subsequent roadway deficiency analyses and the Congestion Management Process analysis is undertaken with; however, it should be noted that this network does not necessarily represent the first air quality conformity horizon year (2026) since some projects such as a few Alcoa Highway segments are not

projected to be open to traffic by that year given their large magnitude and length of time it will take for construction to be completed. Table 10 provides a listing of the Committed projects and their status (either under construction or funded for construction) as of May 2024:

Table 10 - Committed Project List

| Project Name | KRMP ID | Termini | Length (miles) | Project Description | Status as of May 2024 |
|---|-----------------|--|----------------|--|---|
| Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) Widening | 09-216 | Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162) to Little River (Knox/Blount C.L.) | 3.2 | Widen 4-lane to 6-lane with frontage road system and new interchange at Topside Rd (SR-333). Reconfigure existing interchange at Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162) and signalize ramps | In ROW, No Construction Funds yet but Consider entire Alcoa Hwy corridor as committed at this point |
| Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) Widening | 09-628 | North of Little River (Knox/Blount C.L.) to Maloney Rd | 2.4 | Widen from 4 to 6 lanes including pedestrian and bicycle facilities. | Under Construction, Completion target of mid-2025 |
| Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) Widening | 09-653 | Woodson Dr. to Cherokee Trail interchange | 1.3 | Widen 4-lane to 6-lane including pedestrian and bicycle facilities. | Under Construction, Completion target of late-2027 |
| Relocated Alcoa Hwy (SR-115/US-129) | 09-257 / 09-258 | Proposed interchange at Tyson Blvd. to Pellissippi Pkwy (SR-162) | 2.9 | Construct new 4-lane divided highway with auxiliary lanes and new interchanges | Stage 1 Under Construction, Completion target of late-2027; Stage 2 construction start in 2028 |
| Chapman Hwy (US-441/SR-71) | 09-626d | Hendron Chapel Rd to Simpson Rd | 0.9 | Add center turn lane | Under Construction, Completion target of mid-2025 |
| Foothills Mall Drive Extension to Foch Street | 13-211 | US-129 Bypass (SR-115) to Foch St. | 0.5 | Construct new 2-lane road with center turn lane and sidewalks | Construction Complete in 2023 |

| Project Name | KRMP ID | Termini | Length (miles) | Project Description | Status as of May 2024 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|--|--|
| Schaad Rd Extension | 09-605 | Middlebrook Pk (SR-169) to W of Oak Ridge Hwy (SR-62) | 4.6 | Construct new 4-lane roadway with sidewalks | Under Construction, Completion target of late-2024 |
| Pleasant Ridge Rd | 09-616 | Knoxville City Limits to Merchant Dr | 1.6 | Improve 2-lane with turn lanes at major intersections | Construction beginning late 2024 |
| Maynardville Hwy (SR-33) | N/A – Union County | Knox County line to SR-144 | 5.3 | Widen 2-lanes to 4-lanes | Under Construction, Completion target of Fall 2026 |
| Jake Thomas Rd | N/A – Sevier County | Teaster Ln to Veterans Blvd (SR-449) | 1.9 | New 4-lane with Center Turn Lane | Construction Complete in 2024 |
| US 411 Widening and Realignment | N/A – Jefferson & Sevier | SR-92 to Sims Rd | 3.5 | Widen 2-4 lane and new 4-lane | Under Construction, Completion target 2026 |
| State Route 34 (US 11E) | N/A – Hamblen County | US 25E to E Morris Blvd | 3.4 | Two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction and Continuous center turn lane | Construction beginning late 2024 |

Appendix A: Employment Data Development

The TPO staff undertook a comprehensive review of available employment data sources in order to develop the base year 2022 Countywide and TAZ-level estimates of place of work employment by the four major categories of: Basic, Industrial, Service and Retail. This Appendix describes first the process to arrive at a County-level control total of employment by major category and secondly, the allocation of employees at the TAZ-level.

COUNTY-LEVEL CONTROL TOTAL DEVELOPMENT

As noted in the main section of this document, there is no official “census” of employment as there is with population but there are various governmental and proprietary data sources available with which to derive estimates. It is important to note that in the context of the travel demand model, employment is specifically at the place of work, i.e. not the number of workers at the residence location. In other words, the model uses number of jobs, and accounts for the fact that persons can have more than one job.

The two primary governmental sources for counts of workers available at the county scale are the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The TPO purchased socioeconomic projection data from Woods & Poole Economics, inc (W&P) as noted earlier in this document and it bases employment estimates on the BEA data source. It provides estimates of employment at the 2-digit summation level of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The W&P technical documentation states the following (emphasis added):

The employment data in the Woods & Poole database are a complete measure of the number of full- and part-time jobs by place of work. Historical data, 1969-2021, are from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, released in November 2022. The employment data include wage and salary workers, proprietors, private household employees, and miscellaneous workers. Wage and salary employment data are based on an establishment survey in which employers are asked the number of full- and part-time workers at a given establishment. Because part-time workers are included, a person holding two part-time jobs would be counted twice. Also, since the wage and salary employment data are based on an establishment survey, jobs are counted by place of work and not place of residence of the worker. **The employment data used by Woods & Poole comprise the most complete definition of the number of jobs by county. Woods & Poole data may be higher than that from other sources because they measure more kinds of employment.**

In contrast, the BLS data show much fewer jobs than BEA mainly due to the fact that some job categories are omitted from BLS such as agricultural workers, the military, proprietors, households and

miscellaneous employment. The exclusion of sole proprietorships appears to be the most significant difference according to the W&P documentation. At the same time, based on TPO staff experience, the BEA estimate of total jobs seems to be too high and likely due to an overcounting of sole proprietorship employees. It is not certain as to the specific reasons for the overcounting although it may be likely that some self-employed individuals establish multiple “doing business as” names that each get counted but do not function as separate employers.

At the 10-County KRTM level there is a significant difference between the employment estimates from W&P (BEA) and BLS as shown below:

| Year 2022 Total Employment | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | W&P(BEA) | BLS | Difference |
| 10-County KRTM Region | 666,585 | 496,274 | 170,311 |

Guidance provided by the TPO’s travel demand model development consultant; Vince Bernardin with Caliper Corporation, was obtained to develop a modified total employment estimate to reconcile between the two sources. The table on the following page shows the rationale for development of an in-between estimate to be used as county-level control totals from the W&P data.

10-County Knoxville TPO Travel Demand Model Area

2022 Employment Total Comparison between Woods&Poole (BEA) and BLS

| 2-Digit NAICS | Employment Category Description | Year 2022 Total Employment | | | Source | Rationale |
|------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|---|
| | | W&P(BEA) | BLS | Final Estimate | | |
| N/A | Farm Employment (BEA only) | 7,515 | | 7,515 | BEA | only one estimate available |
| 11 | FORESTRY, FISHING, RELATED ACTIVITIES | 1,124 | 1,048 | 1,124 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships |
| 21 | MINING | 1,108 | 436 | 772 | average | BEA too high |
| 22 | UTILITIES | 454 | 3,196 | 3,196 | BLS | Keep public utilities employees under utilities |
| 23 | CONSTRUCTION | 38,738 | 24,701 | 38,738 | BEA | expected to have significant proprietorships |
| 31 | MANUFACTURING | 56,759 | 59,588 | 58,174 | average | unknown reason for difference between BEA & BLS |
| 42 | WHOLESALE TRADE | 20,157 | 18,453 | 19,305 | average | proprietorships expected to be low |
| 44 | RETAIL TRADE | 73,450 | 62,867 | 73,450 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships |
| 48 | TRANSPORTATION and WAREHOUSING | 25,412 | 20,267 | 25,412 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships |
| 51 | INFORMATION | 7,661 | 6,356 | 7,661 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships |
| 52 | FINANCE and INSURANCE | 29,153 | 14,395 | 21,774 | average | BEA too high |
| 53 | REAL ESTATE and RENTAL and LEASE | 31,321 | 7,056 | 10,584 | 1.5*BLS | known issue with BEA estimates |
| 54 | PROFESSIONAL and TECHNICAL SERVICES | 45,179 | 29,958 | 37,569 | average | proprietorships expected to be lower than BEA |
| 55 | MANAGEMENT of COMPANIES and ENTERPRISES | 9,937 | 8,276 | 9,107 | average | proprietorships expected to be lower than BEA |
| 56 | ADMINISTRATIVE and WASTE SERVICES | 51,531 | 34,256 | 42,894 | average | proprietorships expected to be lower than BEA |
| 61 | EDUCATIONAL SERVICES | 10,820 | 36,242 | 36,242 | BLS | keep public educators under education |
| 62 | HEALTH CARE and SOCIAL ASSISTANCE | 66,780 | 59,493 | 66,780 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships, non-profits |
| 71 | ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, and RECREATION | 17,842 | 10,625 | 14,234 | average | BEA too high |
| 72 | ACCOMMODATION and FOOD SERVICES | 65,496 | 60,435 | 65,496 | BEA | reasonable proprietorships |
| 81 | OTHER SERVICES, EXCEPT PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION | 36,865 | 13,216 | 19,824 | 1.5*BLS | BEA seems very high |
| 92 | GOVERNMENT | 69,283 | 17,895 | 41,119 | BEA | Subtracted Utilities and Educators |
| TOTAL | | 666,585 | 496,274 | 600,968 | | |

Summary by 4 Major Categories used by KRTM

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Basic | 48,939 | 29,381 | 51,345 | higher because of public utilities and proprietorships |
| Industrial | 102,328 | 98,308 | 102,891 | essentially same as BEA |
| Retail | 138,946 | 123,302 | 138,946 | BEA |
| Service | 376,372 | 237,768 | 307,786 | essentially split the difference between BEA and BLS |
| TOTAL | 666,585 | 496,274 | 600,968 | |

TAZ-LEVEL EMPLOYMENT ALLOCATION

The primary data source used to allocate employment by each of the four major categories to the KRTM Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) is the proprietary establishment-level data acquired by the Tennessee Department of Transportation known as InfoGroup data, which has recently rebranded as “Data Axle”. The InfoGroup data is a comprehensive business database that contains several data attributes and most importantly an estimate of the number of employees at each business location which has been geocoded to its actual location where possible.

Since it is a national data provider it is important to perform quality control checks on the database and compare it against other data sources and local knowledge. The TPO staff spent significant time in reviewing the data and made several adjustments to improve its accuracy and completeness. The main quality control (QC) process involved reviewing the locations of highest employment such as hospitals, universities and major industries to ensure the proper employment category, number of employees and locations were accurate when comparing against other available data sources. An important data field in the InfoGroup database is the “match level code” which indicates the quality of its geocoding. The geocoding quality can range from exact match to the centroid of the zip code where it is located. Since the TAZs are a relatively small geographic unit it is extremely important to ensure that major employers are geocoded as closely as possible to their actual location.

After completion of the QC process the InfoGroup data was aggregated by employment category to each TAZ and the county totals were compared against the control totals discussed in the previous section of this Appendix. It was noted that the aggregation of the InfoGroup data at the county level compared very well with the “modified” control total as opposed to the original W&P (BEA) estimates which seems to further confirm that the BEA numbers are probably overstated. As a final step, the TAZ employment was factored up proportionally in order to exactly match the county-level control total. In most cases the only factoring needed was for the “Basic” employment category, which is to be expected due to the transient nature of some of these employees such as in the construction trades.

The tables on the following page show the original BEA county-level employment compared against the “modified” employment control totals and the aggregated InfoGroup totals for the four primary counties included in the TPO Planning Area of: Anderson, Blount, Knox and Loudon:

| Anderson County | Original Woods & Poole (BEA) | Modified Employment Control Total | InfoGroup |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Basic | 3,068 | 3,358 | 2,802 |
| Industrial | 14,628 | 15,639 | 15,639 |
| Retail | 7,914 | 7,914 | 7,914 |
| Service | 27,126 | 22,839 | 22,839 |
| Total | 52,736 | 49,750 | 49,194 |

| Blount County | Original Woods & Poole (BEA) | Modified Employment Control Total | InfoGroup |
|----------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Basic | 6,357 | 6,333 | 4,487 |
| Industrial | 13,919 | 13,980 | 13,980 |
| Retail | 14,415 | 14,415 | 14,415 |
| Service | 40,256 | 31,745 | 31,745 |
| Total | 74,947 | 66,473 | 64,627 |

| Knox County | Original Woods & Poole (BEA) | Modified Employment Control Total | InfoGroup |
|--------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Basic | 21,370 | 22,676 | 19,848 |
| Industrial | 41,997 | 41,671 | 41,671 |
| Retail | 65,660 | 65,660 | 65,660 |
| Service | 211,418 | 176,225 | 176,225 |
| Total | 340,445 | 306,232 | 303,404 |

| Loudon County | Original Woods & Poole (BEA) | Modified Employment Control Total | InfoGroup |
|----------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Basic | 2,979 | 3,262 | 1,766 |
| Industrial | 5,764 | 5,704 | 5,689 |
| Retail | 5,133 | 5,133 | 4,539 |
| Service | 11,863 | 8,456 | 8,312 |
| Total | 25,739 | 22,555 | 20,306 |

Appendix B: Master Network Attribute Fields

| Field | Description | Codes/Units: | Files: | Maintained by: | Used for: |
|-------------|--|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| ID | TransCAD ID | | Input & Output | TransCAD | Various |
| Length | Length | miles | Input & Output | TransCAD | Various |
| Dir | Directionality | 0: two-way 1: one-way (A to B) -1: one-way (B to A) | Input & Output | TransCAD | Various |
| BusTime | Bus Travel Time | Minutes | Input & Output | User | Tour Mode Choice |
| STCO | State County Number | | Input & Output | | Post_Alt |
| FC_HPMS | Functional Classification | | | User | Reference |
| County | County Name | | | User | Reference |
| Lampto | Lakeway MTPO network link | | | User | Reference |
| PM25_Flag | Link within the PM2.5 Maintenance Area | 0: not in 1: in | | User | Reference |
| O3_Flag | Link within the Ozone Maintenance Area | 0: not in 1: in | | User | Reference |
| AreaType_FC | Urban or Rural indicator per the FC code | | | User | Reference |
| Cnt_Sta | Count Station ID | | Input & Output | User | Reference |
| [2023_ADT] | 2023 ADT | | Input & Output | User | Reference |
| [2022_ADT] | 2022 ADT | | Input & Output | User | Reference |

| Field | Description | Codes/Units: | Files: | Maintained by: | Used for: |
|-----------------|---|---|----------------|----------------|---|
| [2022_ADT_Corr] | 2022 ADT corrected for potential Interstate volume errors | | Input & Output | User | Reference |
| [2021 ADT] | 2021 ADT | | Input & Output | User | Reference |
| ADT_Model | ADT for validation | | Input & Output | User | Cal_Rep |
| CO_NUM | County Number | | Input & Output | User | |
| Corridor | User-defined Corridors | | Input & Output | User | Post_Alt |
| AltVDF | Special Volume Delay Function | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7: a = 2.0 b = 4.5 4: a = 0.2 b = 10.0 | Input & Output | Developer | Speed-capacity |
| WaterWayXing | Major Waterway Crossing | 1: Yes | Input & Output | User | Stop Location Choice |
| CountyXing | County Line Crossing | 1: Yes | Input & Output | User | Stop Location Choice |
| Net(_#) | Flag field to indicate link is part of network scenario # | Active if = scenario # Inactive if <> # | Input & Output | User | GUI |
| FHWA_FC(_#) | Federal functional class | 1: Rural Interstate 2: Rural Principal Arterial 6: Rural Minor Arterial 7: Rural Major Collector 8: Rural Minor Collector 9: Rural Local 11: Urban Interstate | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity (only approach priority), Post_Alt, Cal_Rep |

| Field | Description | Codes/Units: | Files: | Maintained by: | Used for: |
|-------------|--|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | 14: Urban Principal Arterial 16: Urban Minor Arterial 17: Urban Collector 19: Urban Local 71: Off Ramp 72: On Ramp 73: Ramp (Major to Major Fwy) 74: Ramp (Minor to Major Fwy) 75: Generic Ramp 81: Median cross-over 99: Centroid Connector | | | |
| HOV(_#) | Flag field for HOV facilities | Greater than 0 indicates HOV only | Input & Output | User | Assignment |
| Divided(_#) | Flag field to indicated divided facilities | 0: Undivided 1: Divided | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| Access(_#) | Access Control Level | 1: None 2: Partial 3: Full | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| Lanes(_#) | Number of Lanes (not counting auxiliaries) | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| LN1DIR(_#) | Lanes in One Direction | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |

| Field | Description | Codes/Units: | Files: | Maintained by: | Used for: |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| AuxLanes(_#) | Number of Auxiliary Lanes | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| AB_Lane(_#) | Lanes in the AB direction | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| BA_Lane(_#) | Lanes in the BA direction | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| LN_Width(_#) | Lane width (feet) | | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| RS_Width(_#) | Right shoulder width | Feet | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| Posted_Speed(_#) | Posted speed | Miles per hour | Input & Output | User | Speed-capacity |
| A_Signal | A node control | null: no control 1: signal 2: 2-way stop 3: all-way stop | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |
| B_Signal | B node control | null: no control 1: signal 2: 2-way stop 3: all-way stop | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |
| A_Priority | A node approach priority | 1: High priority 2: Equal priority 3: Low priority | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |
| B_Priority | B node approach priority | 1: High priority 2: Equal priority 3: Low priority | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |
| A_upSigs | Number of signals upstream from A | | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |

| Field | Description | Codes/Units: | Files: | Maintained by: | Used for: |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------------|------------------------|
| B_upSigs | Number of signals upstream from B | | Output | Speed-capacity | Reference |
| CanWalk | Pedestrian travel possible | 0: No 1: Yes | Input | User | Walk Access to Transit |

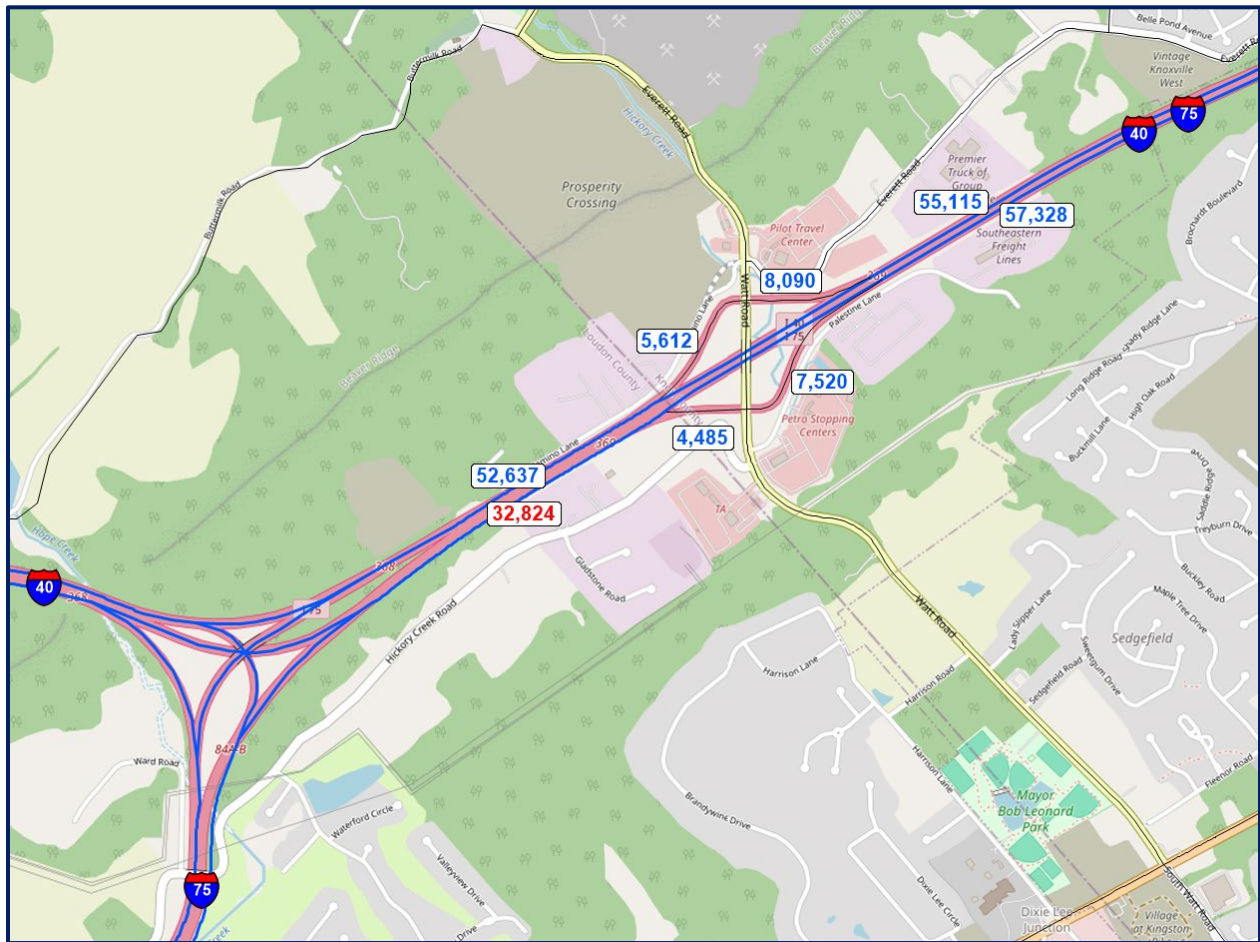
Appendix C: Interstate Count Modifications

As discussed in the main section of this report, actual traffic counts collected on the region's roadways are an important data source that is used to validate that the travel demand model is accurately replicating traffic volumes. A separate "Model Validation Report" is available that documents how well the updated 2022 base year KRTM is matching traffic volumes. The purpose of this appendix is to document changes that were made in order to correct potential errors that were observed in the year 2022 traffic count data.

The corrections were all for Interstate roadways in the Knoxville Region which present unique challenges for count data collection due to their high volumes and speeds. The normal process for collecting traffic count volumes is to place a pneumatic tube across the roadway which is hooked into a small device that can sense and tabulate each pulse of air that is created as a vehicle passes over it. This methodology is not feasible for a multilane high-speed facility such as an Interstate due to both safety concerns during its installation as well as being able to keep the tubes in place for the needed duration of time. Instead of using these types of counters on the mainline Interstate, TDOT instead counts the on and off ramps in between certain "control" points on the mainline where permanent inductive loops have been installed and estimates the volumes in between in a process known as "ramp-balancing". This process can be challenging due to several factors including variability in traffic patterns when ramps are counted that affect how well the real volume can be estimated as well as if control point volumes are in error.

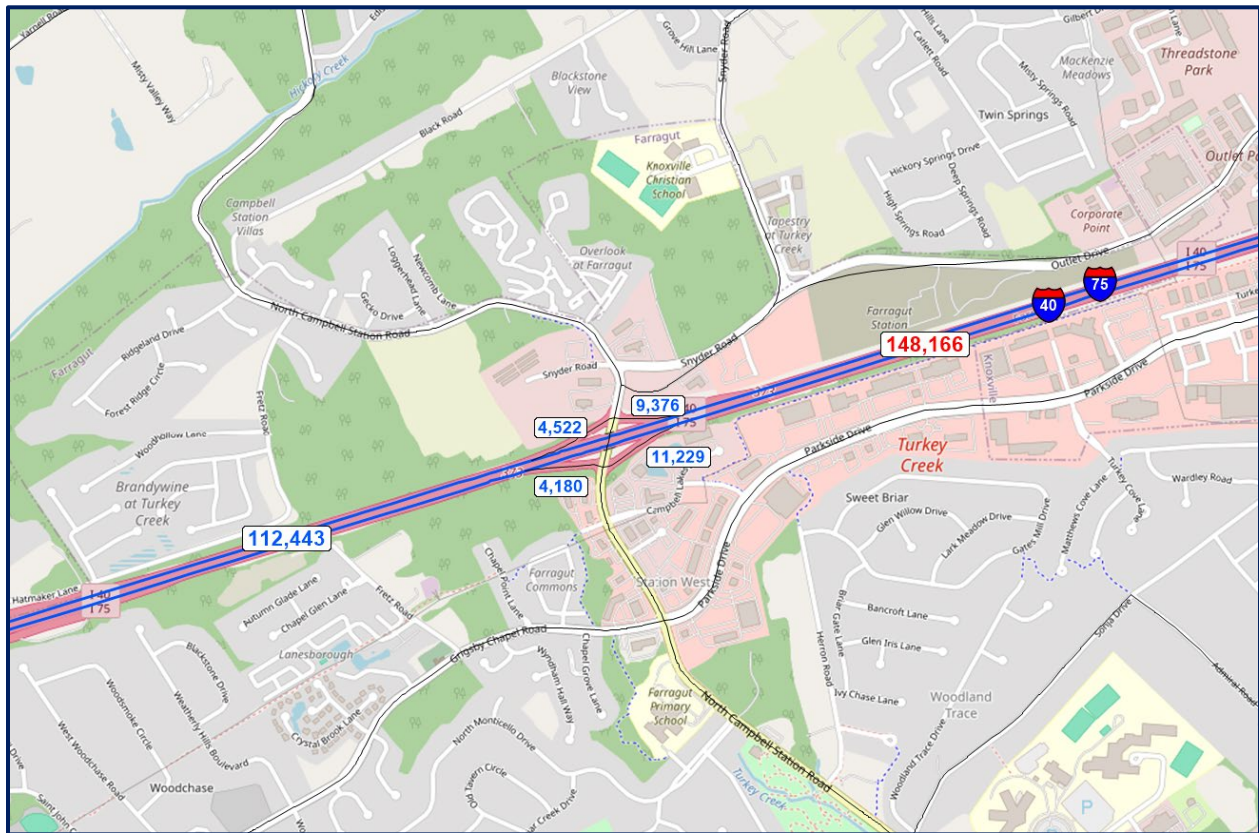
The primary error that was discovered was on the highest volume sections of Interstate in the Knoxville Region which are along the combined segments of I-40 and I-75 through west Knox County, which have the highest average daily traffic in the entire State of Tennessee at greater than 200,000 vehicles per day. In particular, there were obvious discrepancies at the extreme western end of I-40/75 between the junction of the two interstates and the next two interchanges to the east which are Watt Road and Campbell Station Road. Figure C-1 shows the discrepancy east and west of the Watt Road interchange and Figure C-2 shows the discrepancy east and west of the Campbell Station Road interchange. These errors essentially propagated through the rest of the network and had to be corrected for the segments going southward towards Loudon County and eastward towards downtown Knoxville. Other similar errors were corrected for where observed on sections of I-640, I-275, I-140.

Figure C-1 – Count Discrepancy at I-40/75 & Watt Road Interchange



In the figure above, it is obvious that the eastbound volume shown in red text of 32,824 is an anomaly when compared with the other mainline and ramp volumes shown. If one assumes that the eastbound volume of 57,328 shown east of the Watt Road Interchange is accurate (it is coming from a permanent TDOT count station as well) then after adding and subtracting the ramp volumes in the eastbound direction the actual count should instead be 54,293, calculated as follows: $57,328 - 7,520 + 4,485 = 54,293$.

Figure C-2 – Count Discrepancy at I-40/75 & Campbell Station Road Interchange



The figure above shows the apparent discrepancy in total Interstate volume east and west of the Campbell Station Road Interchange. Again, if we assume that the count on the west side is accurate since it is coming from a permanent count station then it would be impossible to obtain the volume shown in red text of 148,166 vehicles per day based on the ramp volumes. The total volume at this location should instead be 124,346, calculated as follows: $112,443 - (4,522+4,180) + (11,229+9,376) = 124,346$.

The TPO staff made some other minor adjustments in the final calculations such as modifying a few individual ramp volumes that seemed to be outliers compared with historical years or to correct for directional imbalances. Tables are provided on the following page that show the before and after volumes for the base year 2022 and compared against other historical count years. It can be seen that overall the corrected values tend to align with historical patterns and averages, which increases the confidence in their use.

| I-75 South | Station ID | 2019 ADT | 2021 ADT | 2022 ADT | 2023 ADT | AVG | Corrected ADT |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|
| External Station - Pond Creek Rd | 62000079 | 44,367 | 45,154 | 43,194 | 49,167 | 45,471 | 43,194 |
| Pond Creek Rd - SR 72 | 53000069 | 45,826 | 46,084 | 44,443 | 50,662 | 46,754 | 44,443 |
| SR 72 - Sugar Limb Rd | 53000070 | 54,064 | 52,785 | 56,682 | 57,638 | 55,292 | 52,424 |
| Sugar Limb Rd - US 321 | 53000071 | 56,236 | 55,134 | 53,454 | 54,683 | 54,877 | 54,324 |
| US 321 - I-40 Junction | 53000050 | 60,473 | 58,302 | 55,469 | 53,771 | 57,004 | 63,090 |

| I-40/75 | Station ID | 2019 ADT | 2021 ADT | 2022 ADT | 2023 ADT | AVG | Corrected ADT |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|
| I-40/75 Junction - Watt Rd | 53000121 | 104,518 | 100,765 | 85,461 | 86,756 | 94,375 | 106,930 |
| Watt Rd - CSR | ATR 37 | 109,381 | 79,585 | 112,443 | 112,023 | 103,358 | 112,443 |
| CSR - Lovell Rd | 47000165 | 125,373 | 93,462 | 148,166 | 132,443 | 124,861 | 126,492 |
| Lovell Rd - I-140 | 47000254 | 142,671 | 114,045 | 163,925 | 147,689 | 142,083 | 142,251 |
| I-140 - Cedar Bluff | 47000164 | 195,109 | 154,869 | 196,701 | 170,970 | 179,412 | 179,242 |
| Cedar Bluff - WS | 47000253 | 206,559 | 166,251 | 207,271 | 191,951 | 193,008 | 189,812 |
| WS - West Hills | 47000252 | 206,396 | 173,049 | 214,055 | 194,969 | 197,117 | 196,596 |
| West Hills - Papermill | 47000124 | 211,494 | 179,856 | 218,583 | 201,281 | 202,804 | 201,124 |
| Papermill Rd - I-640 West | 47000170 | 215,216 | 182,502 | 211,587 | 204,861 | 203,542 | 203,770 |

| I-640 | Station ID | 2019 ADT | 2021 ADT | 2022 ADT | 2023 ADT | AVG | Corrected ADT |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|
| I-40 W - Western Ave | 47000274 | 97,540 | 90,947 | 95,838 | 77,248 | 90,393 | 94,099 |
| Western Ave - I-75 | 47000330 | 96,724 | 94,386 | 104,064 | 74,534 | 92,427 | 95,818 |
| I-75 - Broadway | 47000251 | 97,988 | 89,826 | 98,829 | 73,997 | 90,160 | 88,065 |
| Broadway - Millertown Pk | 47000331 | 79,741 | 71,684 | 76,691 | 52,840 | 70,239 | 65,927 |
| Millertown Pk - I-40 E | 47000332 | 74,397 | 69,368 | 70,244 | 47,561 | 65,393 | 59,480 |

| I-275 | Station ID | 2019 ADT | 2021 ADT | 2022 ADT | 2023 ADT | AVG | Corrected ADT |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|
| I-40 - Baxter Ave | 47000256 | 72,488 | 67,587 | 61,084 | 64,319 | 66,370 | 77,228 |
| Baxter Ave - Woodland Ave | 47000249 | 71,386 | 64,366 | 59,409 | 62,518 | 64,420 | 75,553 |
| Woodland Ave - Heiskell Ave | 47000166 | 68,660 | 60,703 | 55,417 | 59,164 | 60,986 | 71,561 |
| Heiskell Ave - I-640 | 47000250 | 67,702 | 63,125 | 54,478 | 59,832 | 61,284 | 70,622 |

| I-140 | Station ID | 2019 ADT | 2021 ADT | 2022 ADT | 2023 ADT | AVG | Corrected ADT |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|
| Cusick Rd - US 129 | 05000191 | 18,521 | 18,849 | 16,303 | 20,036 | 18,427 | 17,236 |
| US 129 - Topside Rd | 05000183 | 42,872 | 37,064 | 39,490 | 41,429 | 40,214 | 39,490 |
| Topside Rd - Northshore Dr | 05000184 | 49,414 | 43,920 | 47,687 | 50,430 | 47,863 | 47,687 |
| Northshore Dr - Westland Dr | 47000414 | 48,609 | 47,990 | 47,462 | 54,620 | 49,670 | 49,819 |
| Westland Dr - Kingston Pk | 47000415 | 55,861 | 54,523 | 55,194 | 65,616 | 57,799 | 57,262 |
| Kingston Pk - I-40 | 47000419 | 64,579 | 60,213 | 65,390 | 74,676 | 66,215 | 67,458 |

The TPO staff essentially conducted its own “ramp balancing” process in order to obtain the corrected base year 2022 volumes shown in the table above. An example of how this was conducted is shown below for I-640 where directional volumes were used and ramp volumes were added and subtracted. The volumes on the right side of the table were plugged in to the columns on the left side to replace the original volumes where discrepancies were found.

| | | EB | ORIGINAL ADT | WB | checksum | EB | NEW ADT | WB |
|--------------------|--|-----------|---------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| I-40 East | | 6,176 | 70,244 | | 6,814 | | 59,480 | |
| | | 21,507 | | | 24,983 | | | |
| | | 27,683 | | 31,797 | 59,480 | 27,683 | | 31,797 |
| Mall | | 8,355 | 76,691 | | 9,000 | | 65,927 | |
| | | 12,664 | | | 11,138 | | | |
| | | 31,992 | | 33,935 | 65,927 | 31,992 | | 33,935 |
| Broadway | | 6,530 | 98,829 | | 6,986 | | 88,065 | |
| | | 17,779 | | | 17,875 | | | |
| | | 43,241 | | 44,824 | 88,065 | 43,241 | | 44,824 |
| Sharp Gap | | 22,361 | 104,064 | | 23,901 | | 95,818 | |
| | | 26,891 | | | 27,124 | | | |
| | | 47,771 | | 48,047 | 95,818 | 47,771 | | 48,047 |
| Western Ave | | 10,527 | 95,838 | | 11,300 | | 94,099 | |
| | | 9,791 | | | 10,317 | | | |
| | | 47,035 | | 47,064 | 94,099 | 47,035 | | 47,064 |
| I-40 West | | 44,704 | 95,838 | | 45,978 | | 94,099 | |
| | | 7,438 | | | 5,314 | | | |

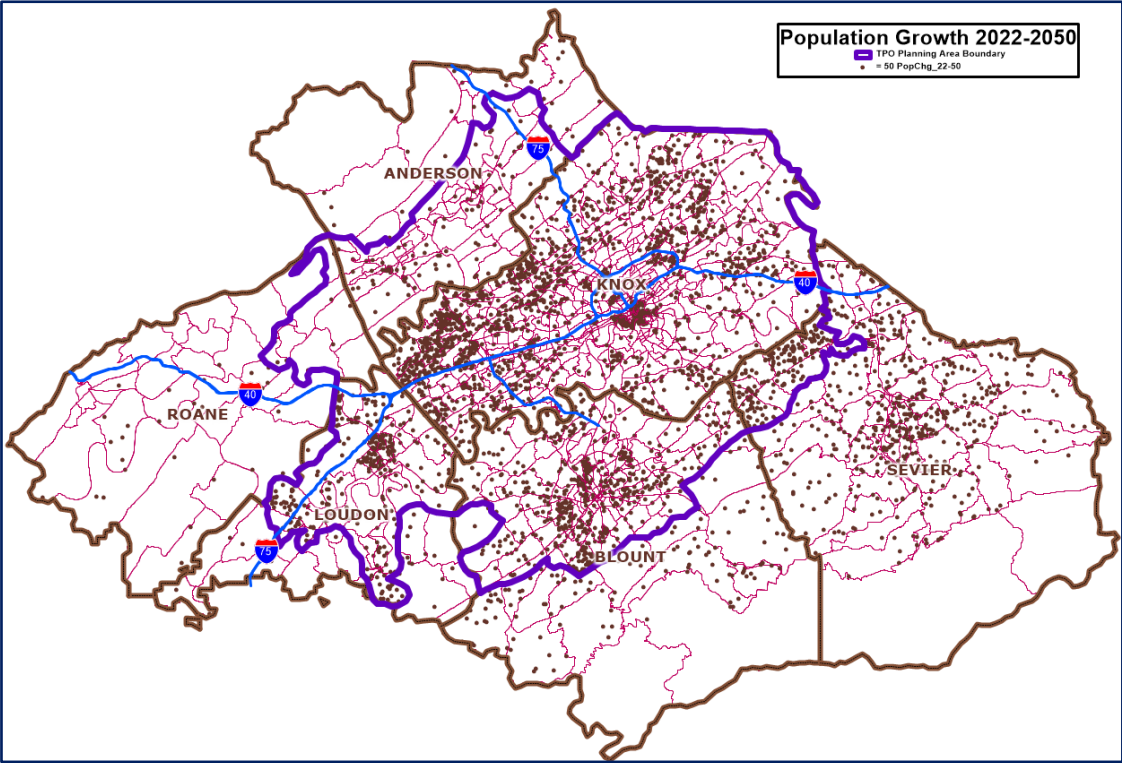
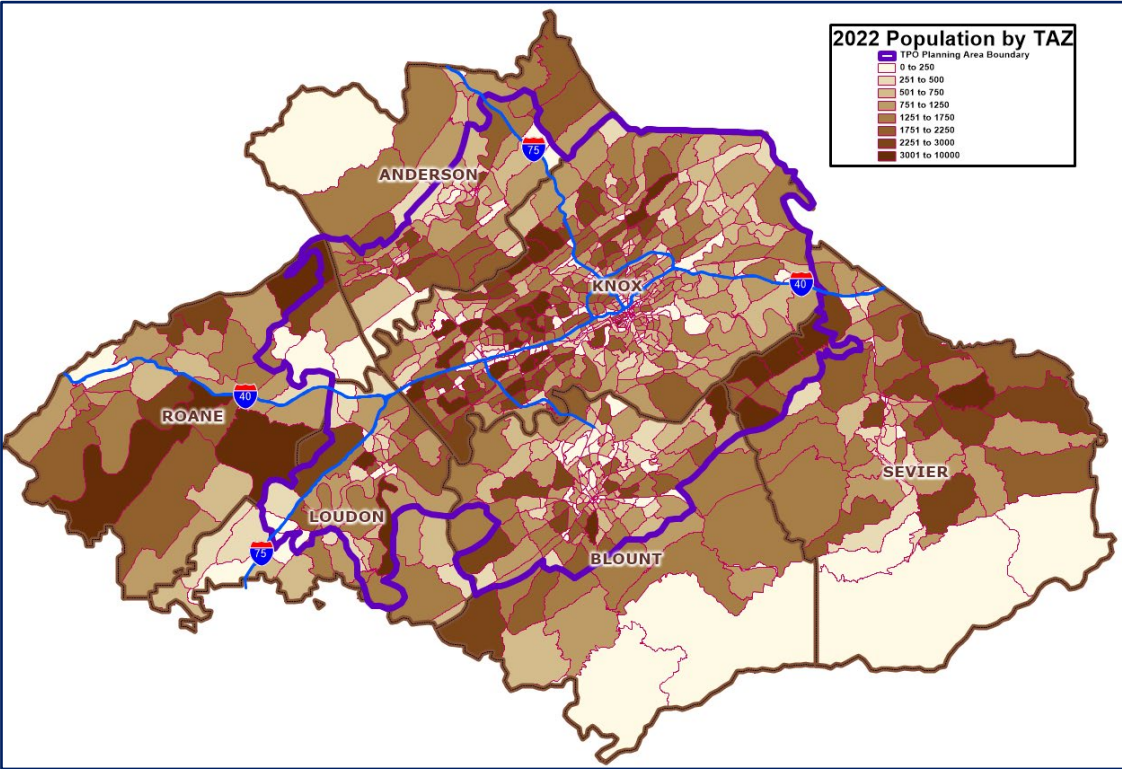
Appendix D: External Station Traffic Volume Forecast

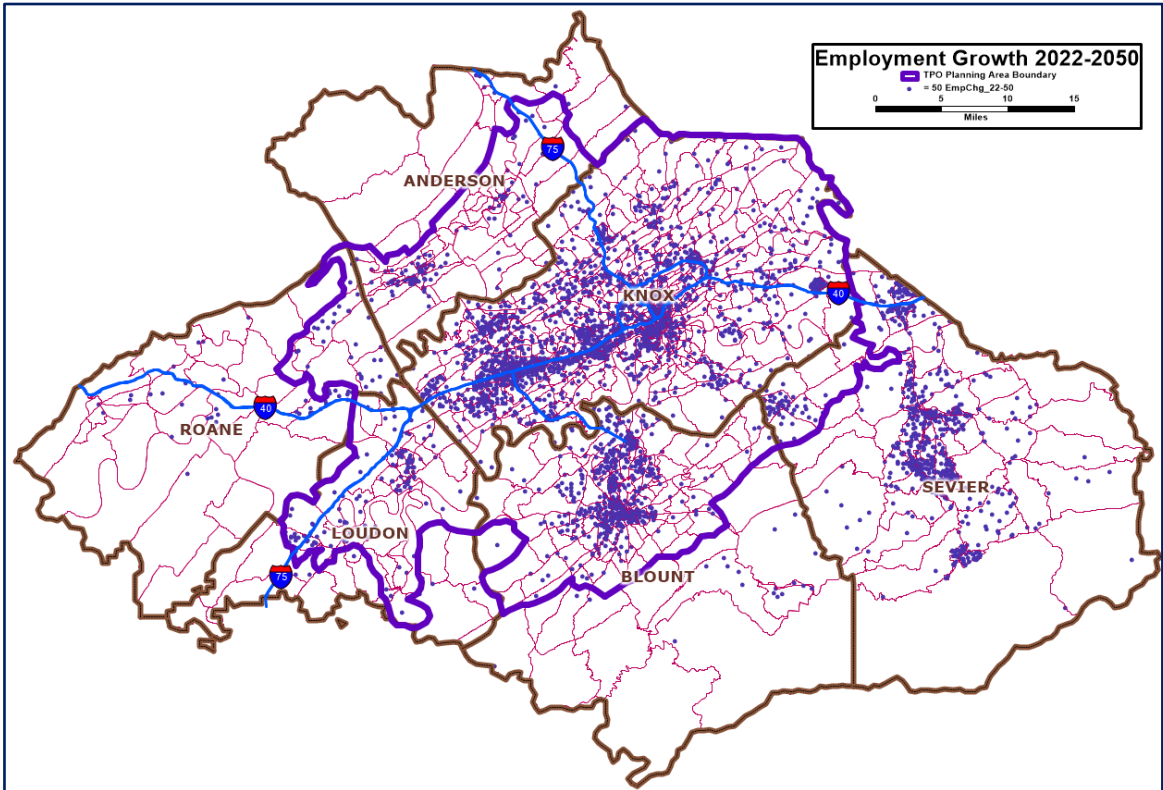
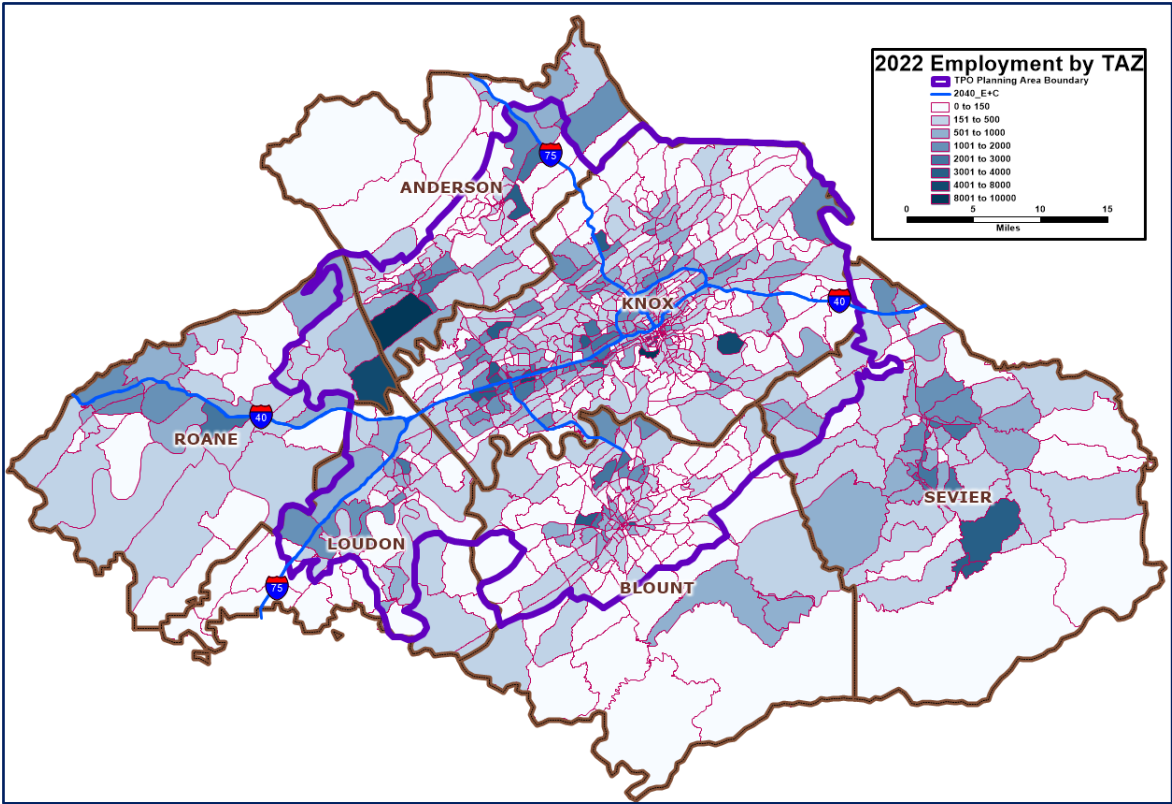
The External Station traffic growth methodology used was to extrapolate historical traffic count data from various timeframes and utilize judgement to select a reasonable growth rate. The primary methodology was to use the linear trend extrapolation in Excel utilizing 2010 - 2023 actual count data and going out to the year 2050. Other considerations were reviewing the linear trend starting back in 1995 and comparing with the TDOT Statewide Model volume predictions at these locations available for 2045.

Some of the lower volume stations exhibited very low or even negative growth which was deemed to be unreasonable so a minimum factor of 1.14 times the base year 2022 volume was used which represents a linear rate of 0.5% per year over the 28-year time period between 2022 - 2050.

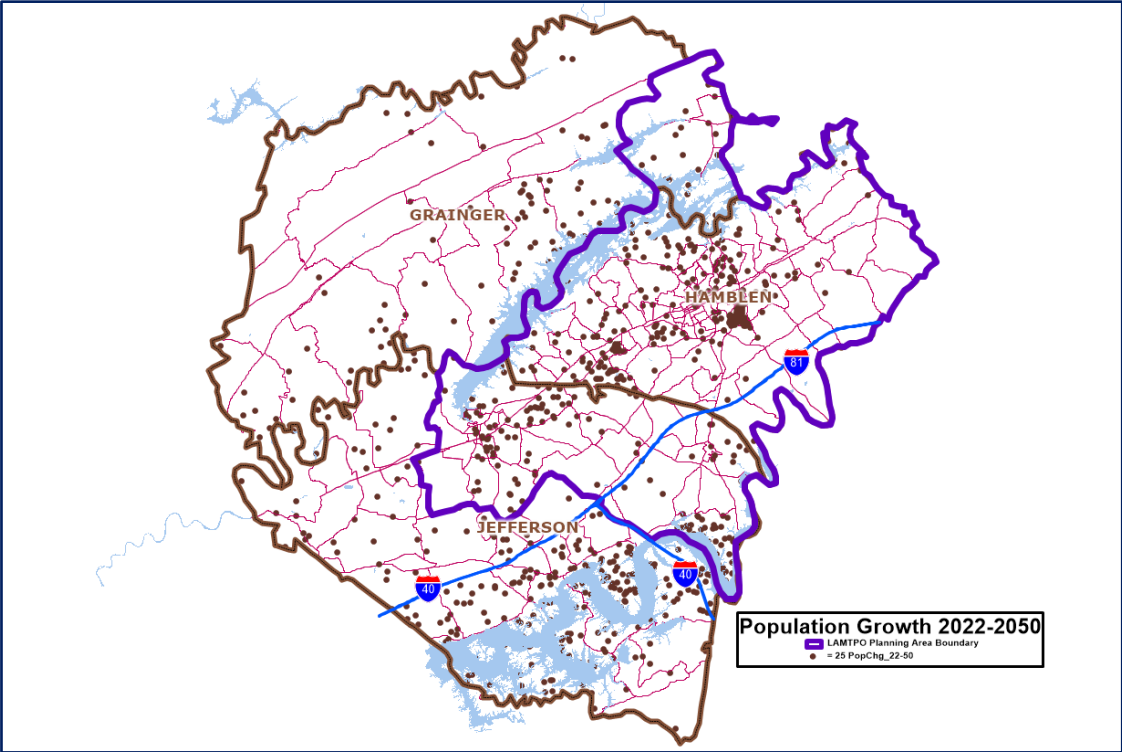
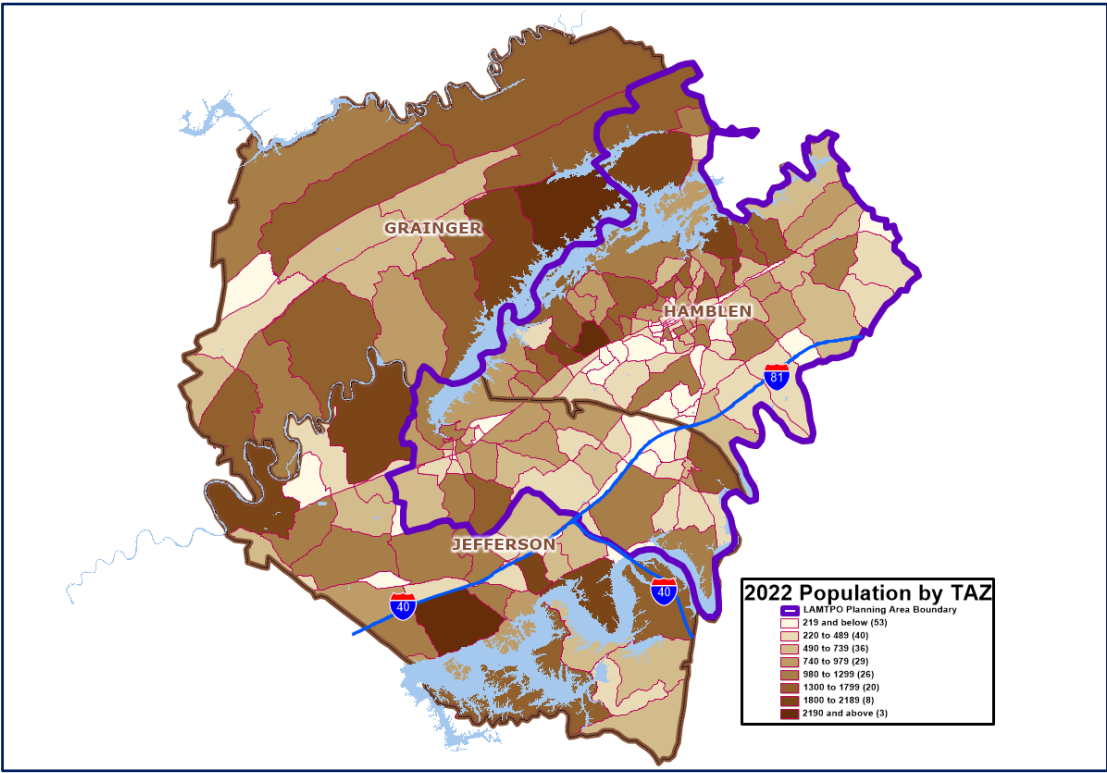
| TAZID | Count Station | COUNTY | Route | LOCATION | Actual AADT_2022 | Forecasted 2026 | Forecasted 2035 | Forecasted 2040 | Forecasted 2050 |
|-------|---------------|------------|-------|--|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 9001 | 73000158 | Roane | I0040 | NEAR CUMBERLAND CO LINE | 32,292 | 34,278 | 38,745 | 41,227 | 46,191 |
| 9002 | 73000007 | Roane | SR029 | NEAR MORGAN CO LINE | 3,788 | 4,033 | 4,583 | 4,889 | 5,500 |
| 9003 | 65000038 | Morgan | SR062 | NEAR ANDERSON CO. LINE | 9,604 | 10,386 | 12,145 | 13,122 | 15,077 |
| 9004 | 07000094 | Campbell | I0075 | (LOOPS) NEAR ANDERSON CO LINE | 45,938 | 46,966 | 49,279 | 50,565 | 53,135 |
| 9005 | 07000075 | Campbell | SR116 | NEAR ANDERSON CO LINE | 3,378 | 3,446 | 3,598 | 3,682 | 3,851 |
| 9006 | 87000005 | Union | SR033 | SR033 NORTH OF MAYNARDVILLE | 8,430 | 9,073 | 10,519 | 11,322 | 12,929 |
| 9007 | 29000008 | Grainger | SR032 | SR032 N. OF THORN HILL | 9,776 | 10,230 | 11,252 | 11,819 | 12,954 |
| 9008 | 29000001 | Grainger | SR131 | NEAR HANCOCK CO LINE | 700 | 749 | 858 | 919 | 1,041 |
| 9009 | 29000053 | Grainger | SR001 | NEAR HAWKINS CO LINE | 10,700 | 11,670 | 13,852 | 15,064 | 17,488 |
| 9010 | 32000001 | Hamblen | 02528 | EAST OF NEEDMORE | 254 | 259 | 271 | 277 | 290 |
| 9011 | 37000076 | Hawkins | SR113 | S.W. OF ST. CLAIR | 3,028 | 3,089 | 3,225 | 3,301 | 3,452 |
| 9012 | 37000123 | Hawkins | SR034 | SR034 NEAR HAMBLEN CO. LINE | 5,866 | 5,983 | 6,247 | 6,394 | 6,687 |
| 9013 | 32000080 | Hamblen | 02469 | BEACON D - NEAR GREENE CO LINE | 382 | 390 | 407 | 416 | 435 |
| 9014 | 30000120 | Greene | I0081 | (LOOPS) NEAR HAMBLEN CO LINE | 39,896 | 42,401 | 48,039 | 51,170 | 57,434 |
| 9015 | 32000036 | Hamblen | SR340 | NEAR GREENE CO LINE | 1,788 | 1,824 | 1,904 | 1,949 | 2,038 |
| 9016 | 15000001 | Cocke | SR160 | NEAR HAMBLEN CO LINE | 2,128 | 2,171 | 2,266 | 2,320 | 2,426 |
| 9017 | 32000039 | Hamblen | 02461 | W. MORRISTOWN | 748 | 798 | 909 | 971 | 1,095 |
| 9018 | 15000019 | Cocke | SR032 | NW OF NEWPORT | 7,352 | 7,499 | 7,830 | 8,014 | 8,381 |
| 9019 | 15000129 | Cocke | I0040 | (LOOPS) BETWEEN JEFFERSON CO LINE & SR-9 | 30,962 | 33,103 | 37,922 | 40,598 | 45,952 |
| 9020 | 15000020 | Cocke | SR009 | NEAR JEFFERSON CO LINE | 5,376 | 5,484 | 5,726 | 5,860 | 6,129 |
| 9021 | 15000131 | Cocke | 05966 | NEAR JEFFERSON CO LINE | 14,050 | 14,692 | 16,137 | 16,939 | 18,544 |
| 9022 | 15000051 | Cocke | SR339 | NW OF COSBY | 2,698 | 2,908 | 3,381 | 3,644 | 4,170 |
| 9023 | 15000057 | Cocke | SR073 | S OF COSBY | 5,088 | 5,330 | 5,874 | 6,176 | 6,781 |
| 9024 | 78000068 | Sevier | SR071 | S. OF GATLINBURG | 5,956 | 6,075 | 6,343 | 6,492 | 6,790 |
| 9025 | 05000088 | Blount | SR115 | NEAR MONROE COUNTY LINE | 1,442 | 1,550 | 1,794 | 1,930 | 2,201 |
| 9026 | 16 | Blount | SR115 | NEAR MONROE COUNTY LINE | 15,326 | 15,757 | 16,725 | 17,264 | 18,340 |
| 9027 | 62000106 | Monroe | SR072 | SR072 NORTHEAST OF MADISONVILLE | 14,410 | 15,245 | 17,124 | 18,168 | 20,255 |
| 9028 | 62000001 | Monroe | SR002 | NEAR LOUDON CO LINE | 3,628 | 3,701 | 3,864 | 3,955 | 4,136 |
| 9029 | 62000079 | Monroe | I0075 | NORTHWEST OF SWEETWATER | 43,194 | 45,278 | 49,967 | 52,571 | 57,781 |
| 9030 | 53000086 | Loudon | SR322 | NEAR MONROE CO LINE | 1,636 | 1,672 | 1,753 | 1,799 | 1,889 |
| 9031 | 73000032 | Meigs | SR058 | NEAR ROANE CO LINE | 3,006 | 3,116 | 3,362 | 3,499 | 3,773 |
| 9032 | 72000046 | Rhea | SR029 | NEAR ROANE CO LINE | 4,952 | 5,051 | 5,274 | 5,398 | 5,645 |
| 9033 | 18000029 | Cumberland | SR001 | NEAR ROANE CO. LINE | 1,918 | 2,034 | 2,296 | 2,442 | 2,733 |

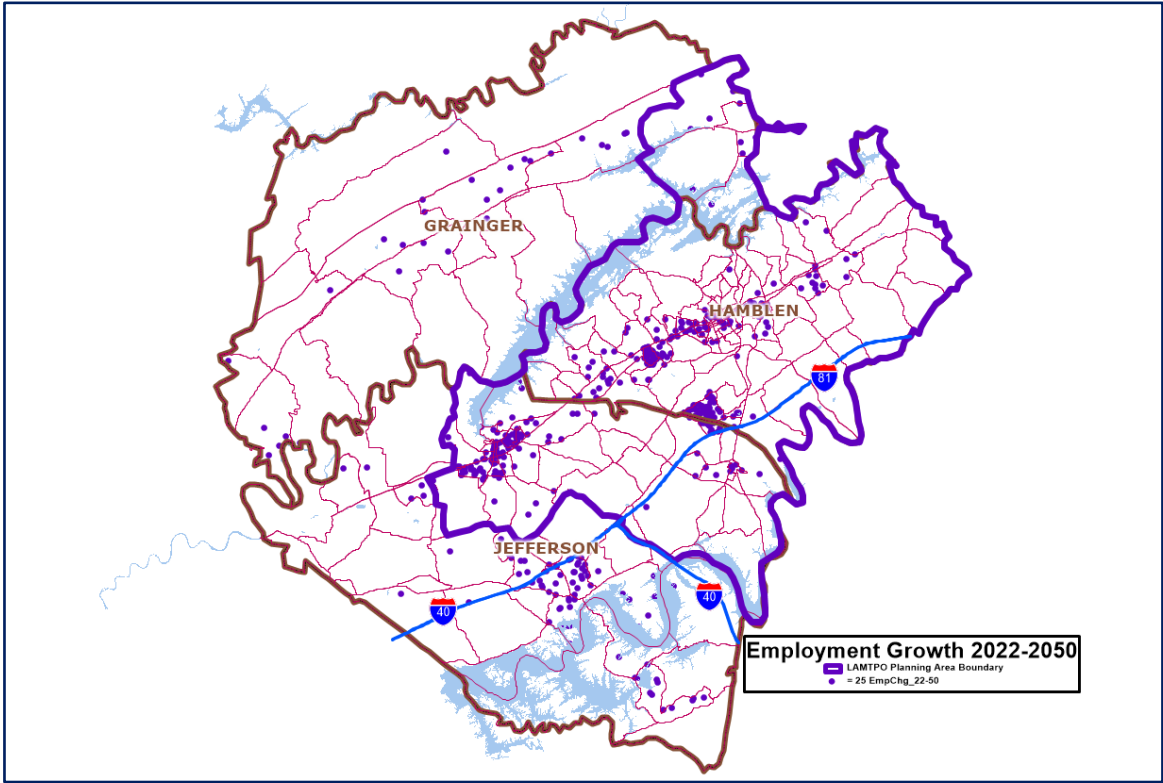
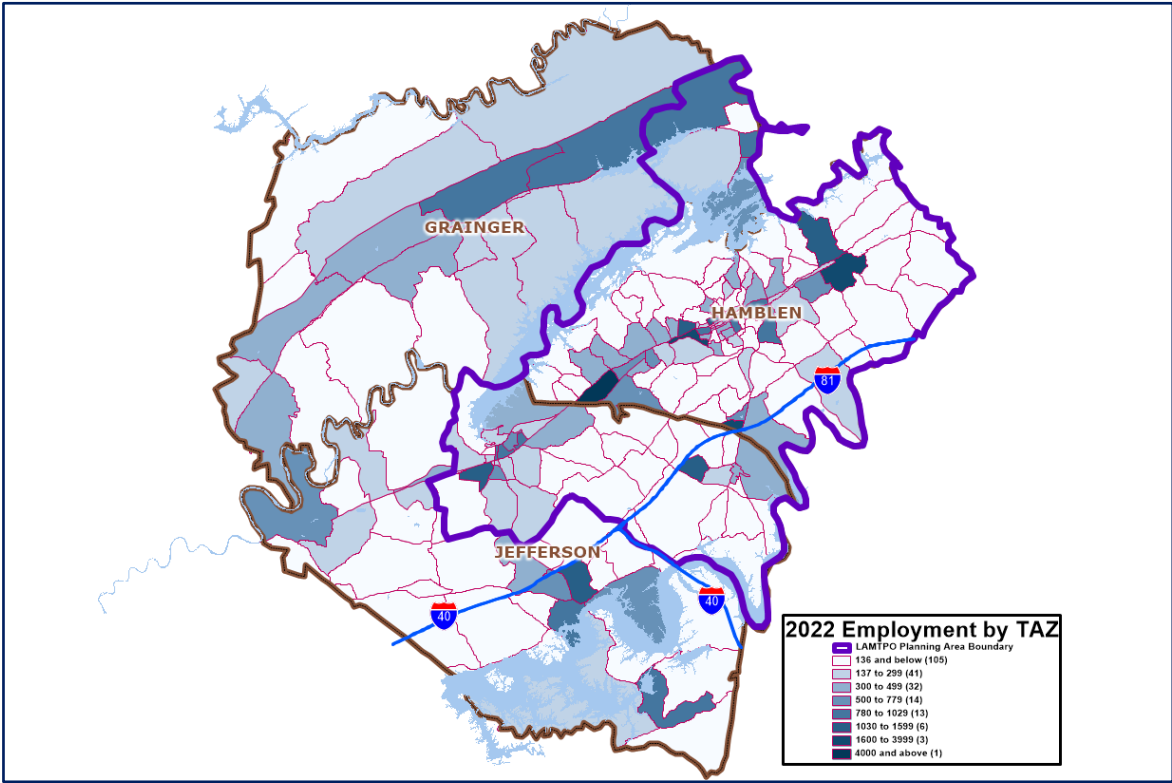
Appendix E: Knoxville TPO Area Future-Year Population and Employment Growth by TAZ





Appendix F: LAMTPO Area Future-Year Population and Employment Growth by TAZ





Final Report for Travel Demand Forecasting Model Update

Submitted by
Caliper Corporation

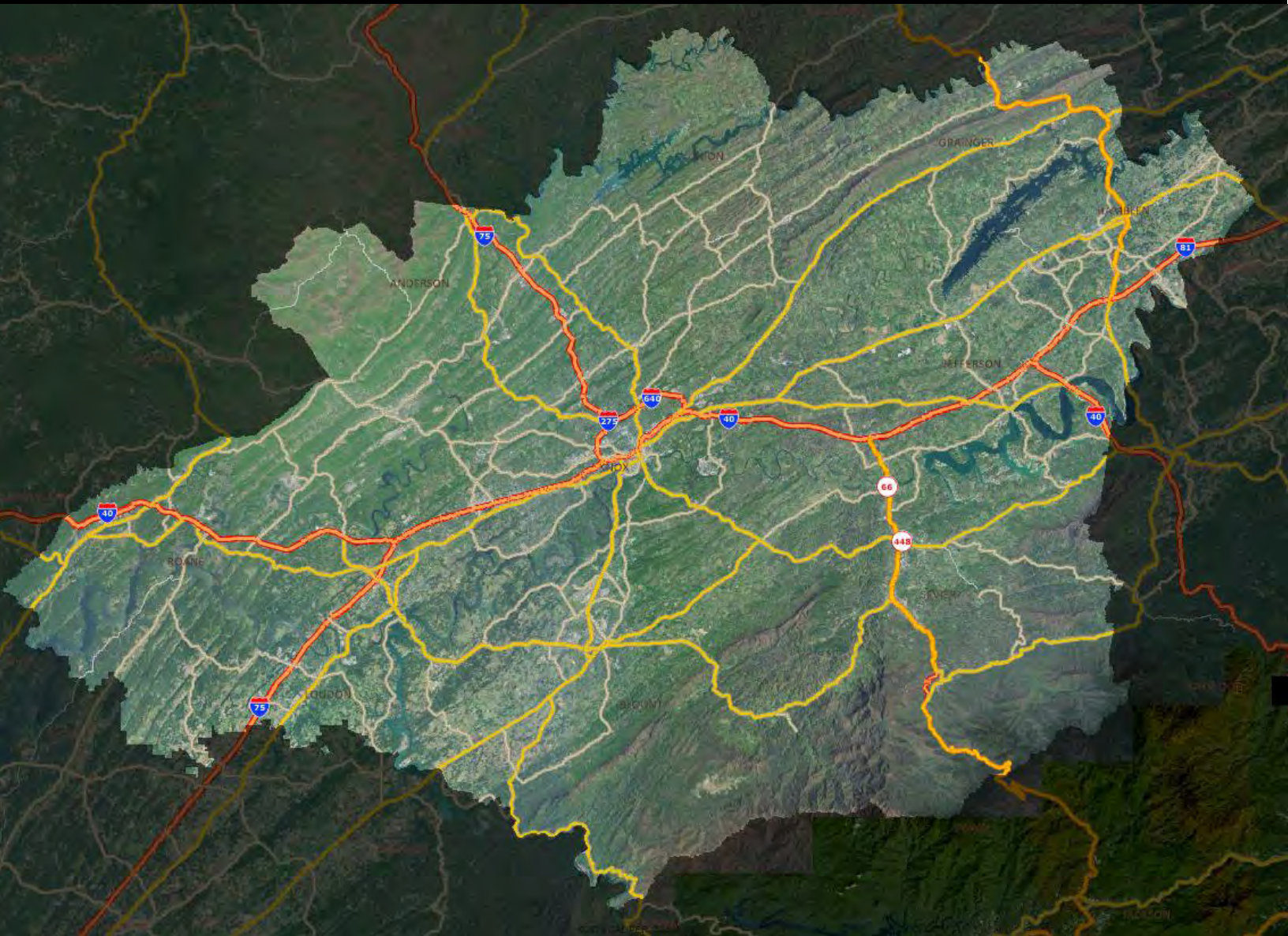


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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to document Caliper Corporation's 2024 recalibration and revalidation of the Knoxville Regional Travel Model (KRTM) for the new base year of 2022.

Background

This is the third update of the version of the KRTM originally developed by Bernardin, Lochmueller & Associates (BLA) in 2009 with a base year of 2006. This original hybrid version of the model was implemented in TransCAD version 5. At the time it was at the very forefront of the practice and represented a major improvement over its predecessor, which was a traditional, four-step sequential trip-based model (also developed by BLA in 2004 and updated in 2008). The hybrid model offered greatly improved policy sensitivity. In particular, the hybrid KRTM offers the following features which its predecessor lacked:

- Sensitivity to fuel prices
- Planning capability for transit, bicycle and pedestrian modes
- More realistic representation of special populations (seniors, low income, students)
- Sensitivity to urban design (mixed uses, development density, grid vs. cul-de-sac style street networks)
- Ability to represent shifts in the timing of travel (due to congestion, aging population, etc.)
- Consistency with tours and trip-chaining behavior
- Improved traffic impacts with halo effects around major developments (malls, factories, etc.)
- More accurate commuting patterns from destination choice models
- Improved representation of speeds and delays from traffic signals, stop signs, etc.
- Improved accuracy of alternatives analysis from new assignment algorithms
- Reduction of aggregation bias which can skew model results

Tour or activity-based models take considerable resources to develop and run. In 2009, most activity-based models took 24-48 hours to run. While computing has improved, many activity-based models still run overnight (~12 hour runtimes). The 2009 KRTM was developed in eight months and ran in less than four hours on a then standard dual core laptop.

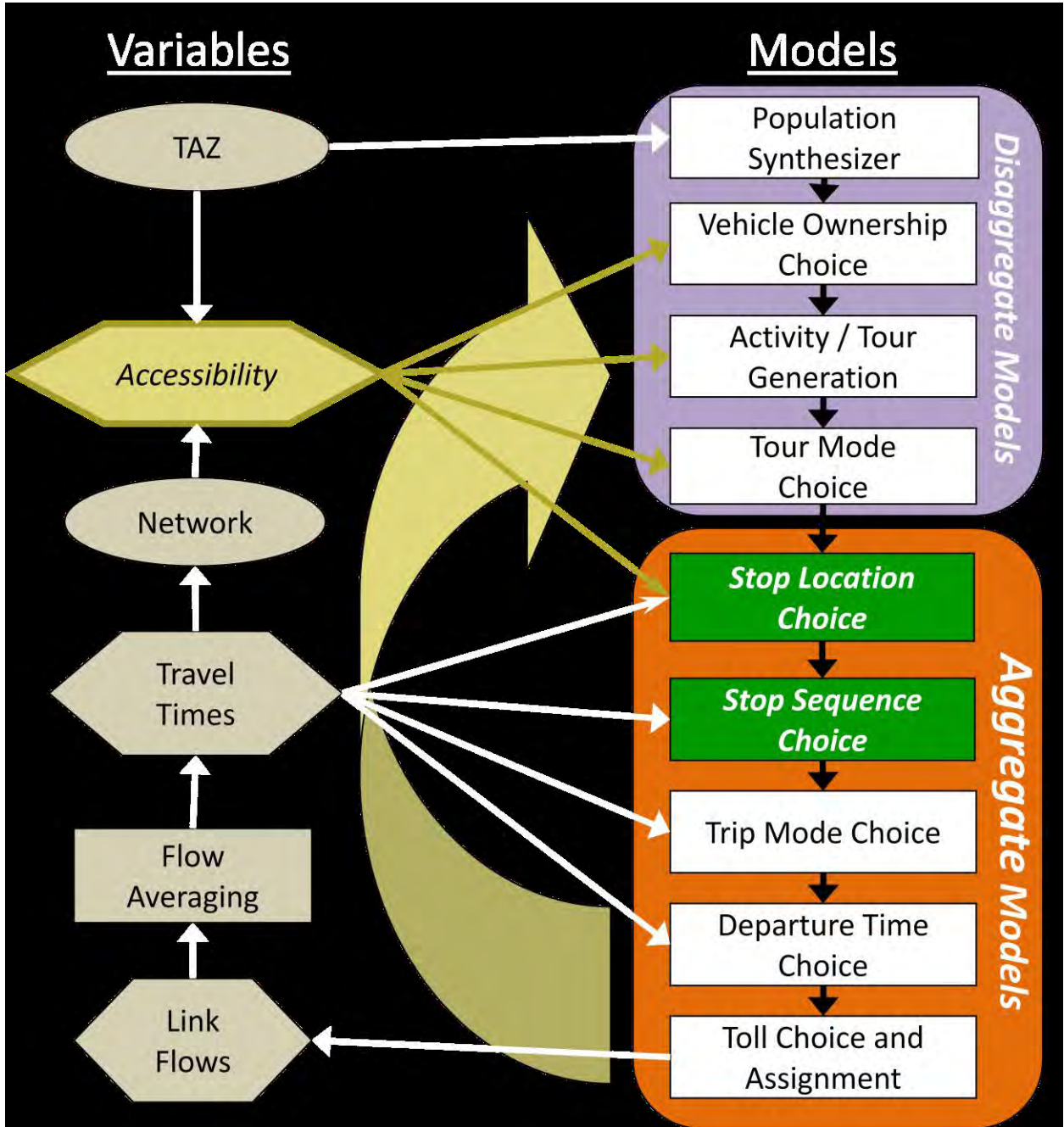


Figure 1. The 2009 KRTM's Hybrid Model Design

The speed of the hybrid KRTM was and is the result of its hybrid design. The architecture was based on based on research conducted by Dr. Vince Bernardin, Jr., as part of his doctoral studies with Profs. Frank Koppelman and David Boyce at Northwestern University and was funded in part by an Eisenhower Fellowship from the Federal Highway Administration. This hybrid model design combines some elements of traditional “four-step” and as well as several components from recent activity-based models, but is ultimately distinct, made possible by the stop location and sequence choice structure

original to the hybrid design. While more recent hybrid models have made use of an alternative, slightly simpler method of linking home-based and non-home-based trips, the KRTM paved the way for the development of over 20 hybrid models across the country and the number is still growing.

The KRTM modeling process, illustrated in Figure 1, begins by generating a synthetic population of individual households based on the aggregate characteristics of the population encoded in the traffic analysis zones (TAZ). Then a model predicting households' level of vehicle ownership is applied. The number of tours (sojourns beginning and ending at home) of various purposes (work, school, other, etc.) and the number of stops on these tours are predicted for each household. The dominant mode of travel (private automobile, school bus, public bus, walking/biking) is chosen for the household's tours of each purpose. Then, grouping households within the same TAZ together, probable locations of the stops on automobile tours are chosen. Next, for each probable stop location, a preceding location is chosen such that the resulting probable sequences of stops form tours which begin at home and proceed from one stop to the next until returning home. For each trip in the resulting travel pattern, the probability of walking, driving alone or with passengers is predicted, as is the departure time (in 15-minute time periods) and toll-eligibility. Finally, the trips are assigned to the roadway network and routes are chosen such that travelers minimize their travel time and costs. The resulting travel times are used to recalculate accessibility variables, and both are then fed back and used to repeat the process, beginning from the generation of tours and stops, until the changes from one iteration to the next in the resulting roadway volumes are minimal.

The adjective "hybrid" refers to two ways in which the new model design blends aspects of four-step and activity-based models and defies traditional categorization. First, the hybrid KRTM model can be described as trip-based in so far as it essentially produces aggregate trip table matrices of trips between origins and destinations rather than disaggregate records detailing individual travelers' activities. However, hybrid models like the KRTM can also be described as tour-based since the travel patterns they predict can be mathematically proven to be consistent with tours and all travel is segmented within the model by types of tours, eliminating non-home-based trips problematic in traditional models. Hence, models of this design are hybrid trip-based/tour-based models.

Second, perhaps more meaningfully, models like the KRTM are hybrid aggregate/disaggregate models. Unlike four-step models which were entirely aggregate and activity-based models which are entirely disaggregate, the KRTM and similar models include both aggregate and disaggregate component models. Yet despite its inclusion of disaggregate choice models, there are no random number draws or Monte Carlo simulation in the KRTM. As a result, the KRTM's model results are reproducible, unlike the results of activity-based or other simulation models. Any difference between two KRTM model

runs is directly attributable to differences in their inputs as with traditional trip-based models. Whereas, in simulation models, multiple model runs are necessary when comparing alternatives to ensure that the difference between model runs results from differences in the alternative inputs rather than from differences in the random numbers drawn for each run.

The shift from the disaggregate framework of individual households to the aggregate framework of trips between zones midway through the model distinguishes the hybrid approach. The use of disaggregate components minimizes aggregation bias in the early steps of the model, including the particularly sensitive primary or tour mode choice. At the same time, the approach minimizes model run times by taking advantage of the fact that it is computationally much easier to predict a set of trips which is consistent with tours than to predict the individual tours themselves.

The hybrid approach does have limitations. It lacks the explicit representation offered by activity-based models of the interactions among household members and of constraints in the timing of travel and activities (although these phenomena are still implicit in this framework). However, given its lower development costs and run time and the reproducibility of results, the hybrid model architecture presented a practical and cost-effective way of incorporating more sensitivity and realism in the KRTM to address the TPO's current and future planning issues. For more information on the original hybrid model refer to *Knoxville Regional Travel Model Update 2009: Model Development and Validation Report*.

In 2012 the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) again contracted with BLA to update the KRTM, expanding its geographic coverage to also incorporate the planning region of the Lakeway Area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (LAMTPO). The model was updated to TransCAD 6 with a new base year of 2010. The model was recalibrated and revalidated for the new base year, but no major changes were made to the model structure. For more information on the 2012 model refer to *Knoxville Regional Travel Model Update 2012: Model Development and Validation Report*.

More recently, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) contracted with Resource Systems Group (RSG) in 2020 to update the model to a new 2018 base year. The KRTM was updated to TransCAD version 8 and revalidated. The model was recalibrated and revalidated for the new base year, but no major changes were made to the model structure. Some minor functionality, was however added to allow the user to decrease trip rates associated with the

COVID pandemic. For more information on the 2012 model refer to the technical memorandum *KRTM Model Revalidation for 2018*, dated October 15, 2020.

Overview

For this third update to the hybrid KRTM, in 2024, the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) contracted with Caliper Corporation to update the KRTM to a post-pandemic base year of 2022. As with the prior updates, no major changes were made to the model structure. A minor change was made to explicitly model remote work from home in order to be able to accurately reflect this phenomenon in the post-pandemic environment. Every major model component was recalibrated, and the model system as a whole was validated against new base year traffic counts. The details of this process are documented in the subsequent sections of this report.

Socioeconomic Data

The 2022 zonal socioeconomic data was developed and provided by the TPO staff using data from the Census Bureau. From the previous base year of 2018, the ten-county region’s population grew by 53,466 people to a new 2022 regional population of 1,092,086. Over the same period, the region’s total employment grew by 59,365 for a total regional employment of 600,976 in 2022. Growth by county generally reflected the existing distributions of population and employment with the strong majority of the growth in Knox County. However, growth rates varied from under 1% to nearly 13%. See Figures 2 – 4 and Table 1 for population and employment growth by county.

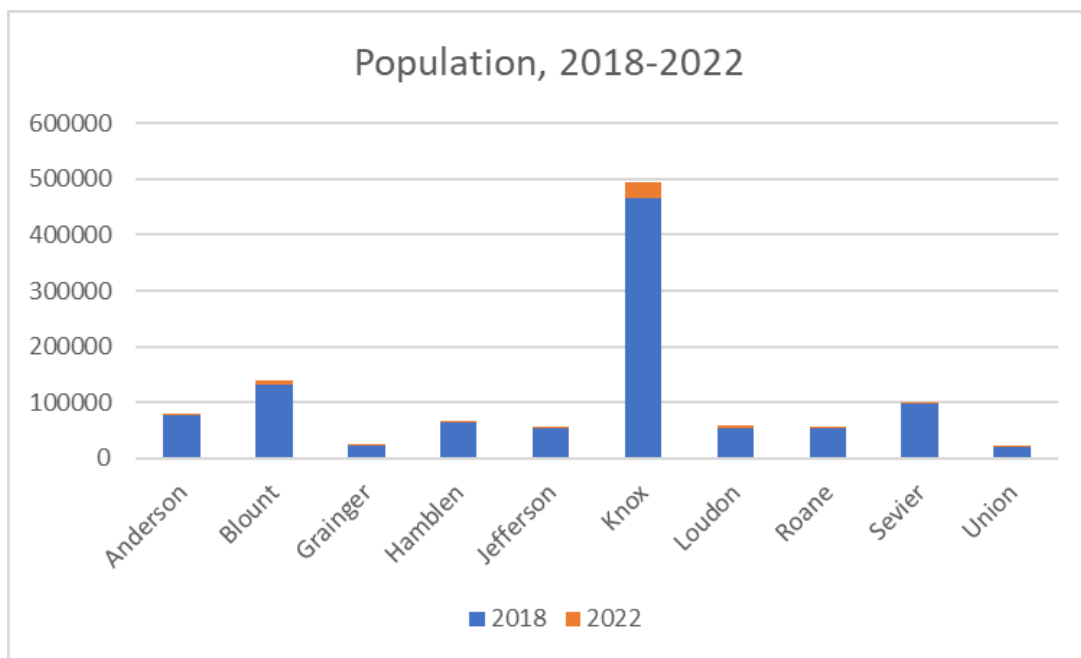


Figure 2. Population by County, 2018 vs. 2022

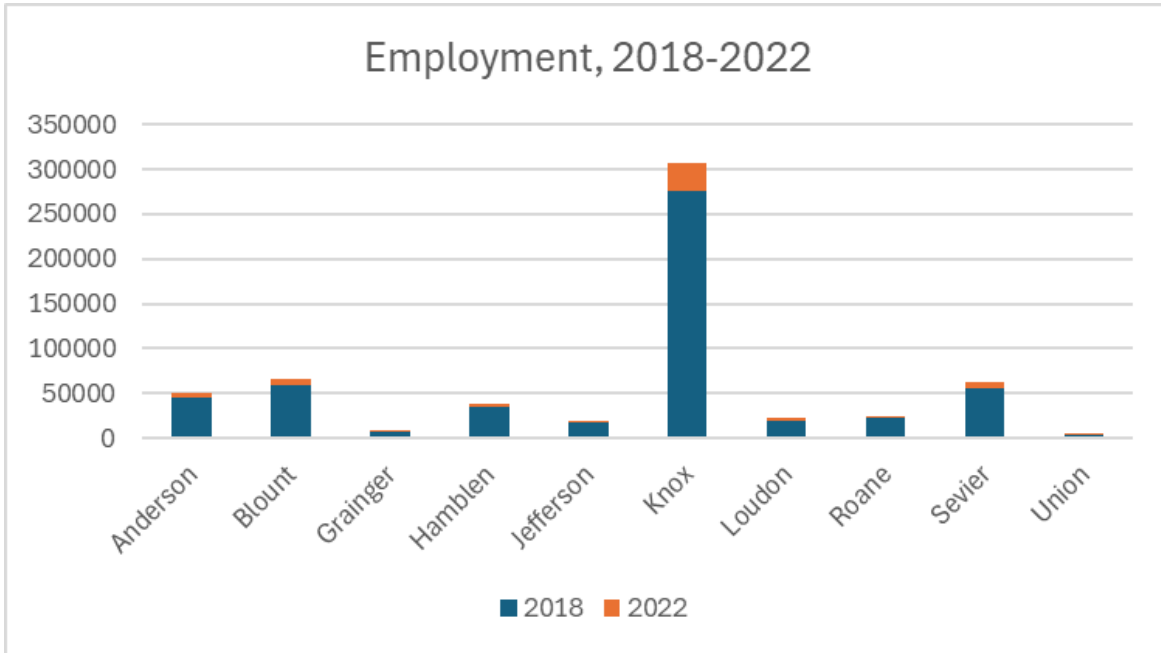


Figure 3. Employment by County, 2018 vs. 2022

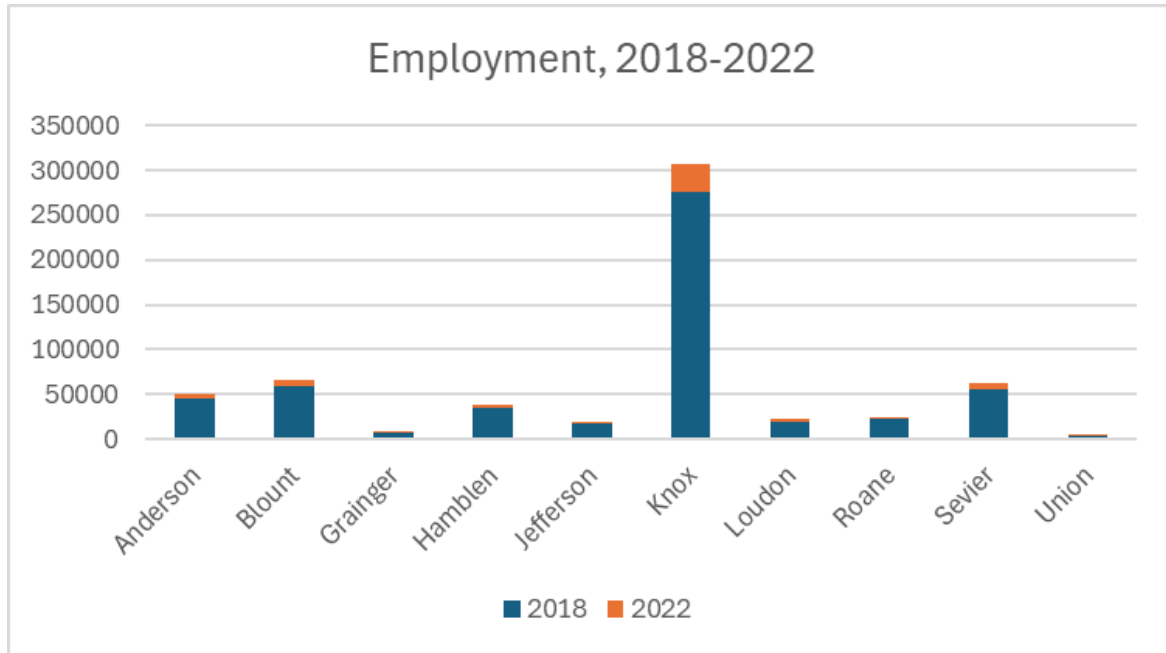


Figure 4. Population and Employment Growth by County

Table 1. Population and Employment Growth by County

| County | Population | | | | Employment | | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| | 2018 | 2022 | Growth | Rate | 2018 | 2022 | Growth | Rate |
| Anderson | 76,482 | 78,913 | 2,431 | 3.2% | 44,399 | 49,750 | 5,351 | 12.1% |
| Blount | 131,349 | 139,958 | 8,609 | 6.6% | 59,662 | 66,473 | 6,811 | 11.4% |
| Grainger | 23,145 | 24,277 | 1,132 | 4.9% | 6,432 | 6,760 | 328 | 5.1% |
| Hamblen | 64,569 | 65,168 | 599 | 0.9% | 35,495 | 38,475 | 2,980 | 8.4% |
| Jefferson | 54,012 | 56,727 | 2,715 | 5.0% | 17,371 | 19,139 | 1,768 | 10.2% |
| Knox | 465,289 | 494,539 | 29,250 | 6.3% | 276,450 | 306,232 | 29,782 | 10.8% |
| Loudon | 53,054 | 58,181 | 5,127 | 9.7% | 19,993 | 22,540 | 2,547 | 12.7% |
| Roane | 53,140 | 55,082 | 1,942 | 3.7% | 21,755 | 24,296 | 2,541 | 11.7% |
| Sevier | 97,892 | 98,789 | 897 | 0.9% | 55,952 | 62,834 | 6,882 | 12.3% |
| Union | 19,688 | 20,452 | 764 | 3.9% | 4,102 | 4,477 | 375 | 9.1% |
| Total | 1,038,620 | 1,092,086 | 53,466 | 5.1% | 541,611 | 600,976 | 59,365 | 11.0% |

The distribution of growth at the level of the model’s travel analysis zones (TAZ) can be seen in Figures 5 and 6. While there was population growth in every county, with the largest gains in western Knox County and Loudon County, there were some local declines in rural areas and Hamblen County.

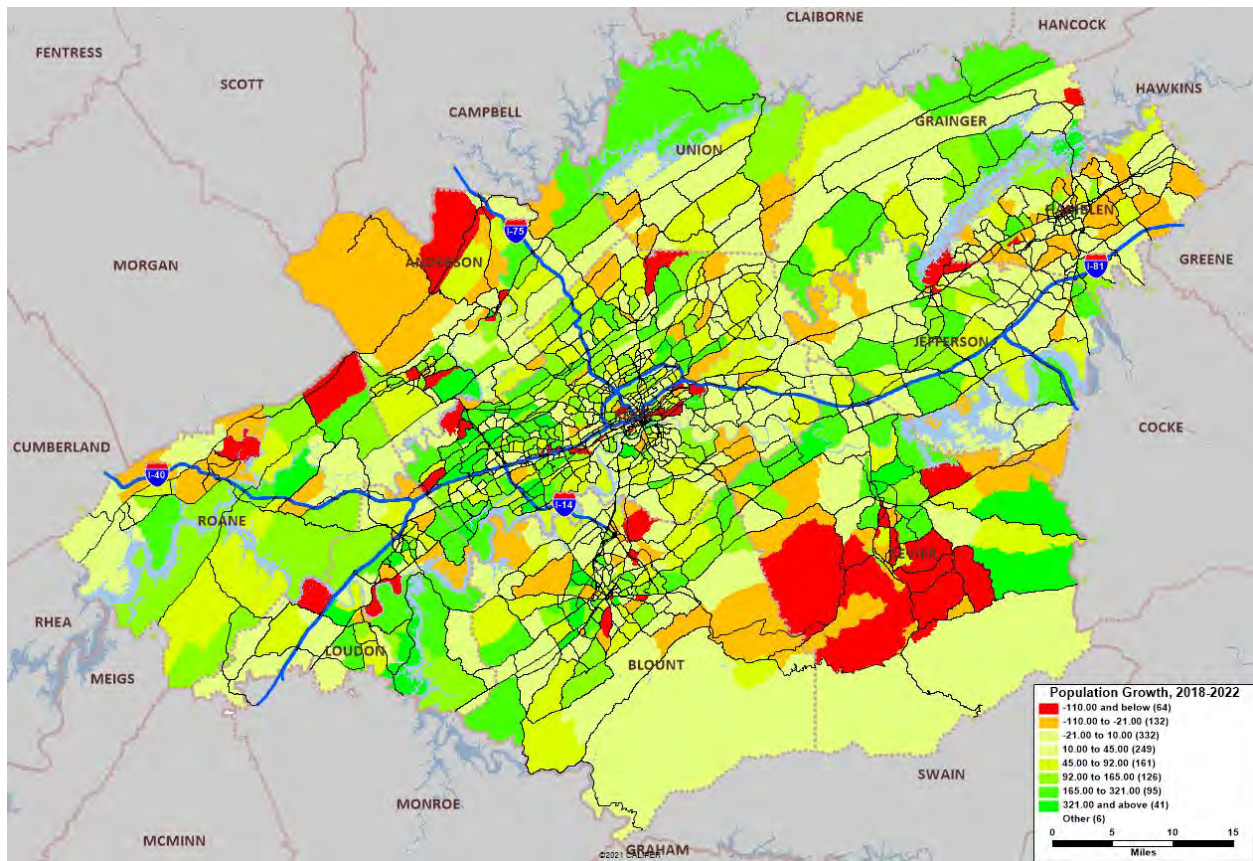


Figure 5. Population Growth by TAZ, 2018-2022

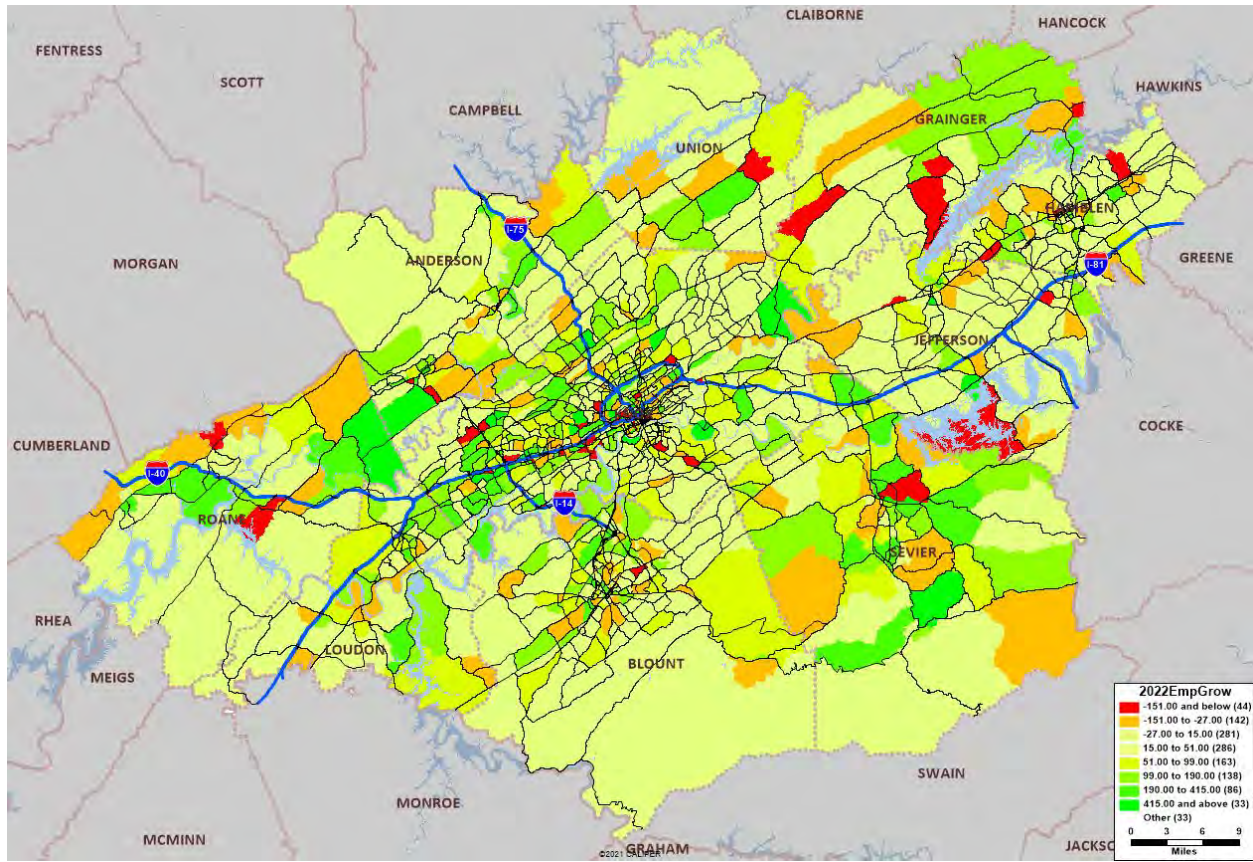


Figure 6. Employment Growth by TAZ, 2018-2022

Employment growth was slightly more dispersed than population growth with significant growth in all counties. Notable growth occurred in southwest Oak Ridge and parts of Sevier County.

While employment determines the location of many trips in the model, the number of trips is driven by the number of workers (by place of residence) as represented by the zonal number of workers per household in the model. Initial estimates of workers per household based on a proprietary dataset were low, with a regional average of 1.14 workers per household, in contrast to 1.24 workers per household in 2018. This represents too much unemployment and too few work tours. Therefore, TPO staff recalculated the workers per household using the actual Census' ACS data and obtained a regional average of 1.22 workers per household, much more consistent with 2018. All other socio-economic variables appeared reasonable and consistent with previous data.

Tour and Stop Generation

It is evident from household surveys around the country and local traffic count and ACS data that trip-making has changed since the COVID pandemic. In particular, trip-making per capita, measured by tour and stop rates, has decreased. The largest and most notable decrease is associated with work travel where there has been a significant increase in remote work from home. School and other tour rates appear to be largely unaffected, but they have also seen a modest decrease in stops per tour.

Table 2. Regional Tour, Stop, and Trip Rates

| | 2000 + 2008 Survey | KRTM10 | KRTM18 | KRTM22 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Work Tours | 0.94 | 0.94 | 1.02 | 0.88 |
| Work Stops | 1.16 | 1.16 | 1.30 | 1.07 |
| College Stops | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Other Stops | 0.90 | 0.88 | 0.98 | 0.82 |
| School Tours | 0.41 | 0.49 | 0.46 | 0.45 |
| School Stops | 0.42 | 0.50 | 0.47 | 0.46 |
| Other Stops | 0.21 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.21 |
| Other Tours | 1.48 | 1.55 | 1.54 | 1.54 |
| Short Maintenance Stops | 1.16 | 1.28 | 1.27 | 1.22 |
| Long Maintenance Stops | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.78 |
| Discretionary Stops | 0.93 | 0.95 | 0.98 | 0.95 |
| | | | | |
| Tours/HH/day | 2.84 | 2.98 | 3.02 | 2.87 |
| Stops/HH/day | 5.52 | 5.81 | 6.05 | 5.53 |
| Trips/HH/day | 8.35 | 8.79 | 9.07 | 8.39 |
| Stops/Tour | 2.06 | 1.95 | 2.00 | 1.93 |

It is valuable to look at both the typical travel behavior of individual travelers implied by tour and stop rates as well as the total numbers of tours, stops, and trips resulting from application to the population which has grown over time. Table 2 shows tour, stop, and trip rates from the original combined 2000 and 2008 household surveys used to develop the hybrid KRTM and the last three versions of the model. Prior to this new 2022 version of the KRTM the model's tour and stop rates were always higher than those observed in the survey. This is expected and due to the known phenomenon of under-reporting of trips in household surveys. Work and overall rates were highest in the 2018 model, while non-work rates were highest in the 2010 model. The 2022 model's rates are lower than previous versions of the model, significantly lower work tour and stop rates and just slightly lower school and other tour and trip rates. The non-work tour and stop rates as well as the overall rates remain just slightly higher than the survey rates, while the work tour and stop rates are clearly lower than the survey rates due to the

increase in remote work from home. Non-work tour rates are consistent with previous models, although the model shows a slight decrease in stops per tour (which may be explained by the substitution of home delivery for shopping stops). The behavior in the model is reasonably consistent with the survey and previous models when allowing for the known increase in remote work from home.

Table 3 shows the total number of tours, stops, and trips in the region in the 2010, 2018, and 2022 base year models. Because the region is growing and the total number of households has been increasing, the number of tours has increased despite the decrease in work tours in 2022 versus 2018. The total number of stops and trips, however, decreased slightly from 2018 to 2022 in the model despite the larger population, due to decreases in the rates. There are clearly two different patterns, one for work travel, and one for non-work travel. Work travel increased from 2010 to 2018, but then fell in 2022. Non-work travel increased across the whole period from 2010 to 2022.

Table 3. Total Tour-, Stop-, and Trip-Making

| | KRTM10 | KRTM18 | KRTM22 |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Work Tours | 370, 594 | 429, 732 | 393, 634 |
| Work Stops | 458, 234 | 548, 716 | 477, 177 |
| College Stops | 9, 188 | 9, 586 | 8, 372 |
| Other Stops | 350, 511 | 412, 814 | 366, 477 |
| School Tours | 193, 056 | 193, 218 | 200, 339 |
| School Stops | 197, 535 | 197, 700 | 204, 987 |
| Other Stops | 87, 047 | 91, 679 | 94, 920 |
| Other Tours | 615, 357 | 646, 995 | 687, 944 |
| Short Maintenance Stops | 505, 866 | 533, 132 | 547, 357 |
| Long Maintenance Stops | 315, 912 | 336, 003 | 347, 011 |
| Discretionary Stops | 378, 239 | 412, 961 | 425, 216 |
| Tours/day | 1, 179, 007 | 1, 269, 945 | 1, 281, 917 |
| Stops/day | 2, 302, 532 | 2, 542, 591 | 2, 471, 518 |
| Trips/day | 3, 481, 539 | 3, 812, 536 | 3, 753, 435 |
| Total Households | 396, 156 | 420, 516 | 447, 242 |

Remote Work from Home

In order to recognize the phenomenon of remote work from home and to allow the user to test scenarios with higher or lower rates of remote work from home in the future, a simple module was added to change the number of tours and stops generated based on the rate of remote work from home. As the rate of remote work from home increases, the number of work tours and stops decrease; however, non-

work stops on work tours shift to become stops on Other Tours. This increase in non-work travel that partially offsets decreases in work travel has been observed in travel surveys and big data during and since the pandemic.

Table 4. Increase in Work from Home in the Census ACS Data

| | 2022 | | | 2010 | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|------|
| | Total Workers | Working from Home | | Total Workers | Working from Home | |
| Knox | 251,710 | 34,030 | 13.5% | 204,933 | 7,670 | 3.7% |
| Anderson | 32,457 | 3,006 | 9.3% | 30,775 | 730 | 2.4% |
| Blount | 65,700 | 10,400 | 15.8% | 55,346 | 1,652 | 3.0% |
| Grainger | 9,411 | 690 | 7.3% | 9,103 | 408 | 4.5% |
| Hamblen | 26,689 | 1,115 | 4.2% | 25,738 | 810 | 3.1% |
| Jefferson | 24,606 | 1,367 | 5.6% | 21,459 | 578 | 2.7% |
| Loudon | 24,262 | 2,318 | 9.6% | 19,648 | 526 | 2.7% |
| Roane | 23,119 | 1,915 | 8.3% | 22,177 | 630 | 2.8% |
| Sevier | 45,941 | 3,241 | 7.1% | 42,033 | 1,327 | 3.2% |
| Union | 8,124 | 743 | 9.1% | 7,360 | 263 | 3.6% |
| All | 512,019 | 58,825 | 11.5% | 438,572 | 14,594 | 3.3% |

Table 4 shows the increase in remote work from home from 2010 to 2022 in the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) data for the region. Although not shown in the table, it is important to recognize the uncertainty in these estimates due to the limited sample size of the ACS. It seems clear that for some of the smaller counties in particular (e.g., Grainger and Union in 2010 and Hamblen and perhaps Jefferson in 2022) the small sample size may well have resulted in errors in the rates. However, despite some errors. The pattern of increased work from home is clear and consistent across all counties.

Based on the ACS data, calibration of the 2022 model began from the assumption of 11.5% regional average in remote work from home. However, in validating the model to local traffic counts, it became evident that the ACS data may have under-estimated work from home in the Knoxville region. ACS estimates of work from home for the State of Tennessee (14.0%) and the nation as a whole (15.2%) are higher than those for the Knoxville region and simple sampling error may partially explain the lower regional rate. Therefore, the assumed rate of work from home for the region in 2022 was incrementally increased to 12.5% in the final validated model, still lower than, but slightly closer to the estimate for Tennessee as a whole and to the estimates for Knox and Blount Counties which may be more accurate due to their larger sample size.

Tour Mode Choice

The increase in remote work from home has not been the only recent change in travel behavior. Transit mode share has decreased. It was decreasing slowly prior to the pandemic and since the pandemic has been even lower. Unfortunately, this was not realized in the 2018 update of the model which substantially overpredicted transit ridership. For the 2022 base year update the tour mode choice model was recalibrated to match the ACS work mode shares and transit ridership (as reported in FTA's National Transit Database). ACS data for the region shows that transit mode share for journey to work (work tours) has decreased by nearly 50% from 2010 to 2022. Over that same period, observed KATS ridership has declined 40%. Since ACS only provides information on work tours, transit mode shares for UT, school and other tours must be inferred from total transit ridership. The ridership data suggests that the decrease in work transit trips accounts for the strong majority of the decrease in ridership, but slight decreases in transit mode share for the non-work tour types must have also occurred.

Table 5. Tour Mode Shares

| Work Tours | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Survey | ACS10 | KRTM10 | ACS18 | KRTM18 | ACS22 | KRTM22 |
| Auto | 98.79% | 97.86% | 98.48% | 98.50% | 97.05% | 98.09% | 98.16% |
| Transit | 0.62% | 0.54% | 0.75% | 0.75% | 2.15% | 0.28% | 0.28% |
| Walk/Bike | 0.60% | 1.60% | 0.78% | 0.75% | 0.81% | 1.62% | 1.57% |
| UT Tours | | | | | | | |
| | Survey | KRTM10 | | KRTM18 | | KRTM22 | |
| Auto | 90.01% | 82.56% | | 92.03% | | 87.26% | |
| Transit | 1.95% | 2.49% | | 1.34% | | 4.81% | |
| Walk/Bike | 8.05% | 14.96% | | 6.64% | | 7.94% | |
| School Tours | | | | | | | |
| | Survey | KRTM10 | | KRTM18 | | KRTM22 | |
| Auto | 81.15% | 81.07% | | 81.51% | | 81.56% | |
| Transit | 0.18% | 0.14% | | 0.54% | | 0.18% | |
| Walk/Bike | 1.07% | 1.29% | | 0.87% | | 1.09% | |
| School Bus | 17.59% | 17.51% | | 17.09% | | 17.17% | |
| Other Tours | | | | | | | |
| | Survey | KRTM10 | | KRTM18 | | KRTM22 | |
| Auto | 98.19% | 97.84% | | 98.19% | | 98.13% | |
| Transit | 0.10% | 0.12% | | 0.33% | | 0.11% | |
| Walk/Bike | 1.71% | 2.04% | | 1.48% | | 1.77% | |

Table 5 shows tour mode shares from the original combined 2000 and 2008 survey, and ACS and model results for 2010, 2018, and 2022. The mode shares in the KRTM generally reflect the mode shares in

the original survey used to develop it. However, the KRTM 2022 has been recalibrated, primarily to match the latest ACS data on work tour mode shares. Table 6 shows the total KATS ridership over time both as modeled by the KRTM and reported by FTA. In 2010 the KRTM's ridership was about 10% higher than reported. In 2018, the model was not well calibrated for transit ridership, estimating over four times too much ridership. The 2022 KRTM has been recalibrated to match observed ridership (in linked trips).

Table 6. KATS System Ridership

| Transit Ridership | 2010 | 2018 | 2022 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Modeled | 10,126 | 31,279 | 6,149 |
| Observed | 9,194 | 7,217 | 6,225 |

The updated tour mode choice also reflects updated input variables for 2022. Since the 2010 model, the KRTM has been calibrated to use year 2010 dollars, so bus fares and gas prices must be adjusted for inflation. KATS fares have decreased in both nominal and real dollars. KATS single trip fare is now \$1 which is only \$0.75 in year 2010 dollars. As can be seen in Figure 7, gas prices are always fluctuating, and gas prices experienced a minor spike from March to August of 2022, but over the whole of 2022, they averaged about \$3.60/gallon in current year dollars. Converting to year 2010 dollars this comes to a price of \$2.65/gallon. As Knoxville gas prices have averaged something more like \$3.10/gallon through 2023 and early 2024 (\$2.21 in year 2010 dollars), it may be reasonable to use a lower gas price along these lines in forecasting as with the exception of the 2022 spike, local gas prices have been reasonably flat over the past decade (see Figure 8).

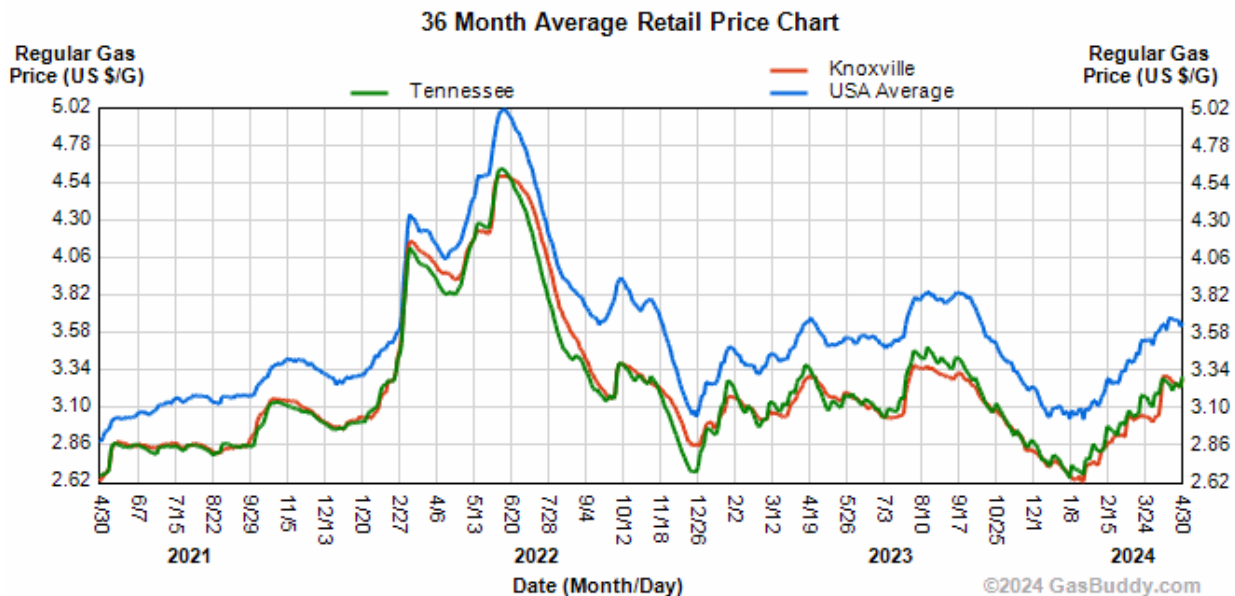


Figure 7. Knoxville Gas Prices 2021-2024 (GasBuddy.com)

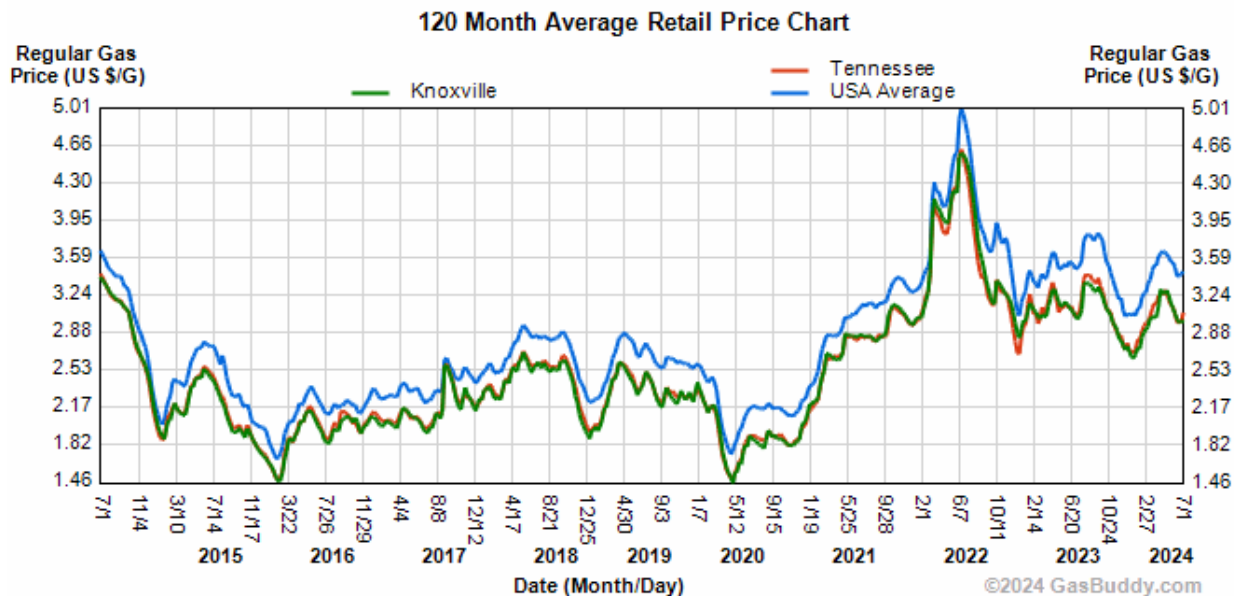


Figure 8. Knoxville Gas Prices over the Past Decade (GasBuddy.com)

Stop Location Choice

Stop location choice or destination choice is not expected to have changed significantly from prior to the pandemic, although new survey data would help to confirm this or measure any changes that have occurred. However, some adjustments to the model parameters were necessary in order to reproduce observed travel times from home and intrazonal percentages from the original survey. As in the prior updates, the main adjustment was to the parameters for residential accessibility interacted with travel time and the intrazonal parameter; however, as it was observed that county cutlines and river crossings were high versus counts, the parameters for the impact of these psychological barriers were increased. A 60% increase in the river crossing effect and a 65% increase in the county line crossing effect achieved better agreements of the resulting assignment with counts. However, the actual increase in terms of equivalent time for these barriers increased by less than these proportions since the impedance parameters also increased. Table 7 shows that updated model is well calibrated to the original survey data. However, given the need to adjust the model parameters, it is recommended that the next model update be based on new data.

Table 7. Comparison of Observed and Modeled Travel Times and Percent Intrazonal

| | | Mean Travel Time from Home | | Intrazonal Percentage | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Work Tours | | Observed | Modeled | Observed | Modeled |
| | Work (Low Income) | 15.3 | 15.4 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| | Work Stops | 18.5 | 18.7 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| | College Stops | 20.8 | 20.8 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| | Other Stops | 14.6 | 14.9 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
| UT Tours | | | | | |
| | Other Stops | 15.9 | 15.7 | 4.2 | 3.7 |
| School Tours | | | | | |
| | School Stops | 10.1 | 9.8 | 11.3 | 11.3 |
| | Other Stops | 12.4 | 12.9 | 8.8 | 5.6 |
| Other Tours | | | | | |
| | Short Maintenance Stops | 11.7 | 11.7 | 7.6 | 7.7 |
| | Long Maintenance Stops | 15.0 | 15.1 | 3.4 | 3.6 |
| | Discretionary Stops | 14.2 | 14.4 | 6.6 | 6.8 |

Stop Sequence Choice

The second spatial choice model in the KRTM which ensures the consistency of its trip tables with tours is stop sequence choice. In this model, the home locations and stops from stop location choice are connected to form trips consistent with closed tours. The goodness-of-fit of these models is determined by comparing the observed and modeled trip lengths (in travel time) and percent diagonal or intrazonal. For each tour time home-based and non-home-based trips can be separately compared though they are produced by the same model. As Table 8 shows, the updated model reproduces the observed trip characteristics from the original survey very well, and notably better than the previous updates, particularly regarding intrazonals.

Table 8. Observed and Modeled Trip Lengths and Percent Intrazonal

| Trip Type | Mean Travel Time from Home | | | | Percent Diagonal | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Observed | KRTM10 | KRTM18 | KRTM22 | Observed | KRTM10 | KRTM18 | KRTM22 |
| Work Tours | 14.9 | 14.5 | 14.7 | 15.0 | 5.1 | 4.0 | | 5.2 |
| Work Tours - Home-Based | 16.3 | 16.1 | 16.5 | 16.4 | 4.1 | 5.0 | | 4.2 |
| Work Tours - Non-Home | 12.4 | 11.7 | 11.7 | 12.5 | 7.0 | 2.1 | | 6.9 |
| UT Tours | 15.0 | 10.6 | 11.2 | 15.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 | | 1.7 |
| UT Tours - Home-Base | 16.3 | 10.8 | 11.4 | 16.3 | 0.6 | 2.0 | | 1.4 |
| UT Tours - Non-Home | 12.1 | 9.9 | 10.5 | 12.6 | 2.7 | 0.3 | | 2.2 |
| School Tours | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 8.8 | | 10.9 |
| School Tours - Home-Based | 10.3 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 10.4 | 11.0 | 10.3 | | 11.1 |
| School Tours - Non-Home | 11.2 | 12.2 | 11.9 | 11.1 | 9.8 | 0.6 | | 9.8 |
| Other Tours | 12.1 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 8.5 | 5.5 | | 8.8 |
| Other Tours - Home-Based | 12.7 | 12.7 | 12.5 | 12.6 | 7.6 | 7.4 | | 8.5 |
| Other Tours - Non-Home | 10.6 | 9.9 | 9.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 | 1.2 | | 10.6 |

The final distribution of passenger trips for the region, reflecting the combined results of stop location and stop sequence choices, was also validated by comparing the final total passenger origin-destination (OD) trips with the distributions observed in the combined 2000-2008 survey and the 2022 Transography data. The tables below compare the aggregate county-to-county OD flows. To facilitate comparison because Hamblen and Grainger counties were not included in the survey data, they have been omitted in all the tables.

Table 9. All trips from the 2000-2008 survey

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | 7.9% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.1% | 0.0% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Blount | 0.0% | 9.9% | 0.0% | 1.7% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% |
| Jefferson | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3.8% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 1.1% | 1.7% | 0.3% | 49.3% | 0.6% | 0.3% | 0.9% | 0.4% |
| Loudon | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.6% | 4.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 0.7% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 3.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 0.9% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 6.9% | 0.0% |
| Union | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.9% |

Table 10. All trips from the 2023 Transography data

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | 6.8% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Blount | 0.1% | 12.0% | 0.0% | 1.2% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% |
| Jefferson | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3.1% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 1.0% | 1.2% | 0.3% | 48.2% | 0.6% | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.2% |
| Loudon | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.6% | 3.9% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 3.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 10.5% | 0.0% |
| Union | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.8% |

Table 11. All trips from the 2022 KRTM

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | 5.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.5% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Blount | 0.0% | 12.0% | 0.0% | 1.6% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% |
| Jefferson | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.6% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 1.6% | 1.6% | 0.3% | 47.1% | 1.0% | 0.4% | 1.0% | 0.4% |
| Loudon | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 2.7% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 0.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.2% | 3.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 11.0% | 0.0% |
| Union | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.8% |

All the sources agree that the majority of trips are intra-county, with just under half of all trips in the region occurring entirely within Knox County. The 2022 KRTM's distribution matches the 2022 Transography data slightly better than the 2000-2008 survey distribution, perhaps indicating that the model is accurately reflecting some real, albeit minor changes in OD patterns in the region. The KRTM appears it may be slightly high on inter-county trips and slightly low on intra-county trips, but the error is small. Re-estimating the county boundary psychological barrier term from new data would be expected to fix this in a new model.

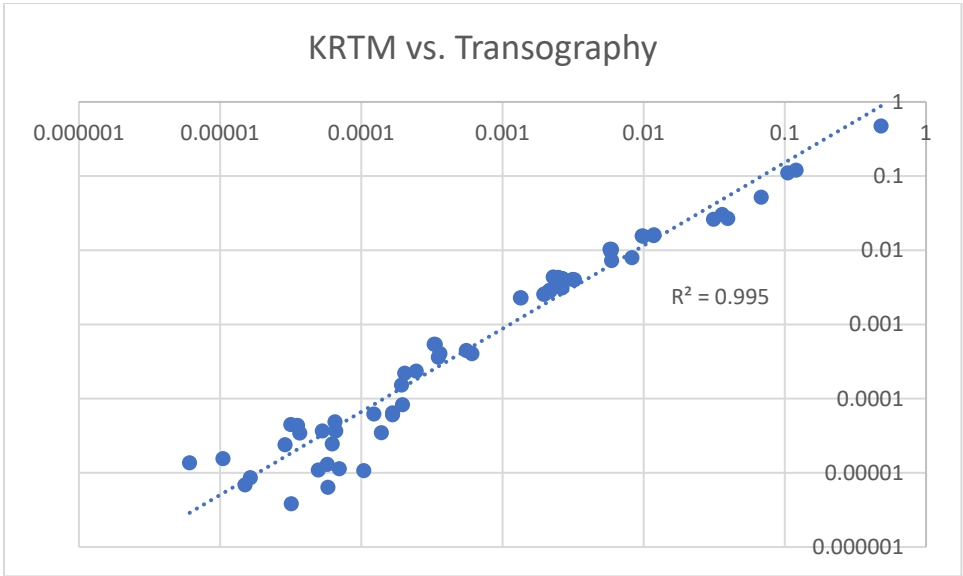


Figure 9. County-to-County OD flows, KRTM vs. Transography

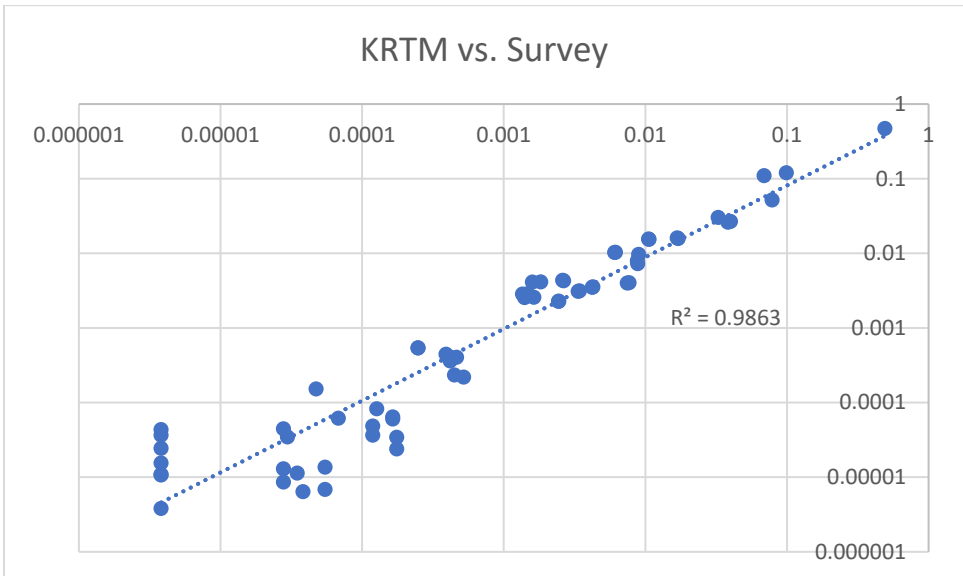


Figure 10. County-to-County OD flows, KRTM vs. Survey

Because the county-to-county flows are dominated by intra-county trips, it is also helpful to look at just the inter-county trip patterns. Again, it is clear that all three sources present basically the same pattern. The model appears to be doing a very good job of reproducing observed flows at least at a high level.

Table 12. Intercounty OD flows from 2000-2008 Survey

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | | 0.3% | 0.1% | 7.6% | 0.3% | 5.5% | 0.0% | 0.2% |
| Blount | 0.3% | | 0.1% | 12.2% | 1.2% | 0.3% | 1.3% | 0.0% |
| Jefferson | 0.1% | 0.1% | | 2.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 7.6% | 12.0% | 2.5% | | 4.4% | 1.9% | 6.4% | 3.1% |
| Loudon | 0.3% | 1.0% | 0.0% | 4.4% | | 1.7% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 5.4% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 1.9% | 1.8% | | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.1% | 1.1% | 1.1% | 6.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | | 0.1% |
| Union | 0.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 3.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.1% | |

Table 13. Intercounty OD flows from 2022 Transography data

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | | 0.6% | 0.1% | 9.1% | 0.3% | 2.9% | 0.2% | 0.3% |
| Blount | 0.5% | | 0.2% | 10.8% | 1.8% | 0.2% | 2.4% | 0.1% |
| Jefferson | 0.1% | 0.2% | | 2.4% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 2.0% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 8.9% | 10.8% | 2.4% | | 5.3% | 2.3% | 5.4% | 2.3% |
| Loudon | 0.3% | 1.8% | 0.0% | 5.4% | | 1.2% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 3.0% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 2.1% | 1.2% | | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.2% | 2.4% | 2.0% | 5.4% | 0.1% | 0.1% | | 0.0% |
| Union | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |

Table 14. Intercounty OD flows from 2022 KRTM

| | Anderson | Blount | Jefferson | Knox | Loudon | Roane | Sevier | Union |
|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Anderson | | 0.3% | 0.0% | 9.8% | 0.2% | 2.6% | 0.1% | 0.3% |
| Blount | 0.3% | | 0.0% | 10.0% | 1.6% | 0.1% | 2.6% | 0.0% |
| Jefferson | 0.0% | 0.0% | | 2.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.8% | 0.0% |
| Knox | 9.9% | 10.2% | 2.0% | | 6.5% | 2.7% | 6.1% | 2.3% |
| Loudon | 0.3% | 1.6% | 0.0% | 6.5% | | 1.4% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Roane | 2.5% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 2.7% | 1.4% | | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Sevier | 0.1% | 2.6% | 1.8% | 4.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% | | 0.0% |
| Union | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | |

External Trips

The KRTM’s external trips were also updated using the 2022 Transography data. This is the first time new data has been available to update the model’s external trips since the 2009 model development. The new data shows both similarities and differences in the external travel patterns for the region.

Based on the 2007 license plate matching study, 19% of all external trips were through trips. However, given the loose limit on elapsed time between the captures this includes trips that made a stop (i.e., for gas or food) in the region. The Transography commercial vehicle data, on the other hand, considers trips making a stop within the region as an EI and an IE trip (two trips) rather than a single, through EE trip. For that reason, the Transography data shows 10.5% of external trips as through trips. However, since the model was designed for the looser definition of through trips, the EE trips from Transography were scaled up to be loosely consistent with the previous level of through trips.

Both datasets show the dominance of the interstates, but the 2022 Transography data shows the I-75 through movement as more dominant; whereas, the 2007 license place study, the I-75 and I-40 through movements and exchanges were more balanced in magnitude. The difference is meaningful, but not necessarily implausible suggesting some real change in long distance travel patterns through the region. The 2022 KRTM accordingly reflects the newer data.

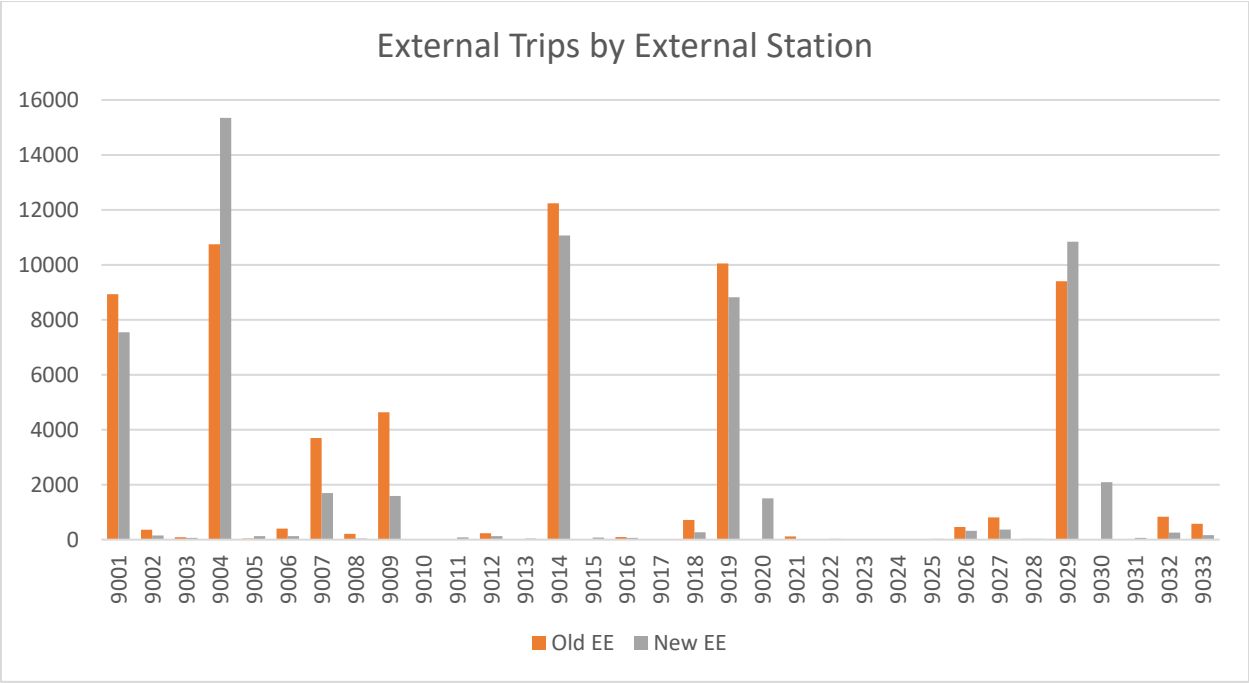


Figure 11. External Trips by External Station

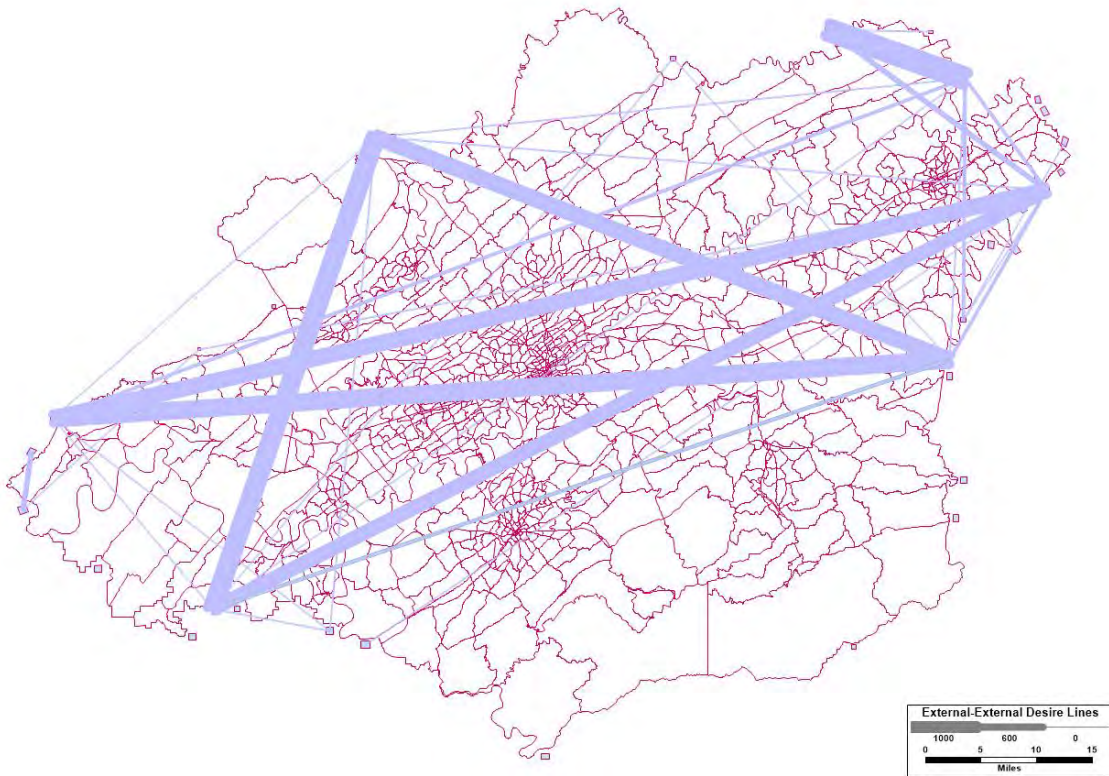


Figure 12. EE Desire Lines based on 2007 Survey

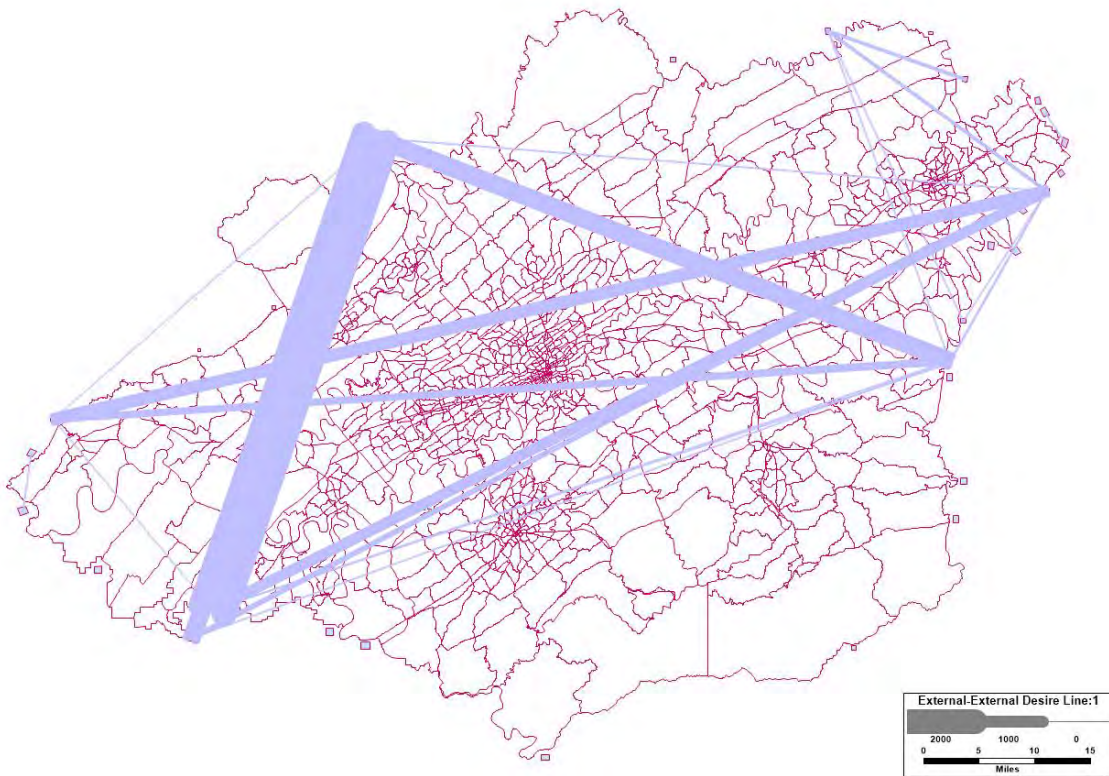


Figure 13. EE Desire Lines based on 2022 Transography data

Table 15. External Trip Time-of-Day Distributions

| | All External Cars 2007 | EE 2022 | EI 2022 |
|----|------------------------|---------|---------|
| AM | 7.82% | 10.51% | 11.89% |
| PM | 20.75% | 21.96% | 23.24% |
| OP | 71.43% | 67.54% | 64.87% |

The Transography data was also used to estimate new time-of-day factors for external trips. Again, as in the geographic patterns, there was overall similarity, but also some differences between the 2007 and 2022 data. The 2022 KRTM reflects slightly more external traffic in the AM and PM peak periods, although the majority of external trips remain in the off-peak period.

Assignment Validation

In the final step of the travel model, the vehicle trip tables for each class are assigned to the model network. External automobile trips and single and multiple unit trucks are loaded first, on the assumption that they do not divert do to congestion. Then, local automobile trips are assigned routes through the network on the “user equilibrium” assumption that only minimum congested travel cost routes are used. The Knoxville regional model makes use of TransCAD 9.0’s origin-based algorithm to solve for the user equilibrium solution to a high level of precision (0.0001 relative gap). More precise or more tightly converged assignment solutions are more stable and have more localized sensitivity.

The CAL_REP module was used to create maps with a color theme based on loading error and a scaled symbol/width theme on absolute error as well as to report model performance for the:

- network as a whole,
- functional classes,
- volume group ranges,
- designated screenlines,
- designated corridors,
- area types, and
- counties.

The assignment loading error map is shown in Figure 14. As can be seen, the loading errors are generally randomly distributed, indicating that systematic errors have been addressed in calibration.

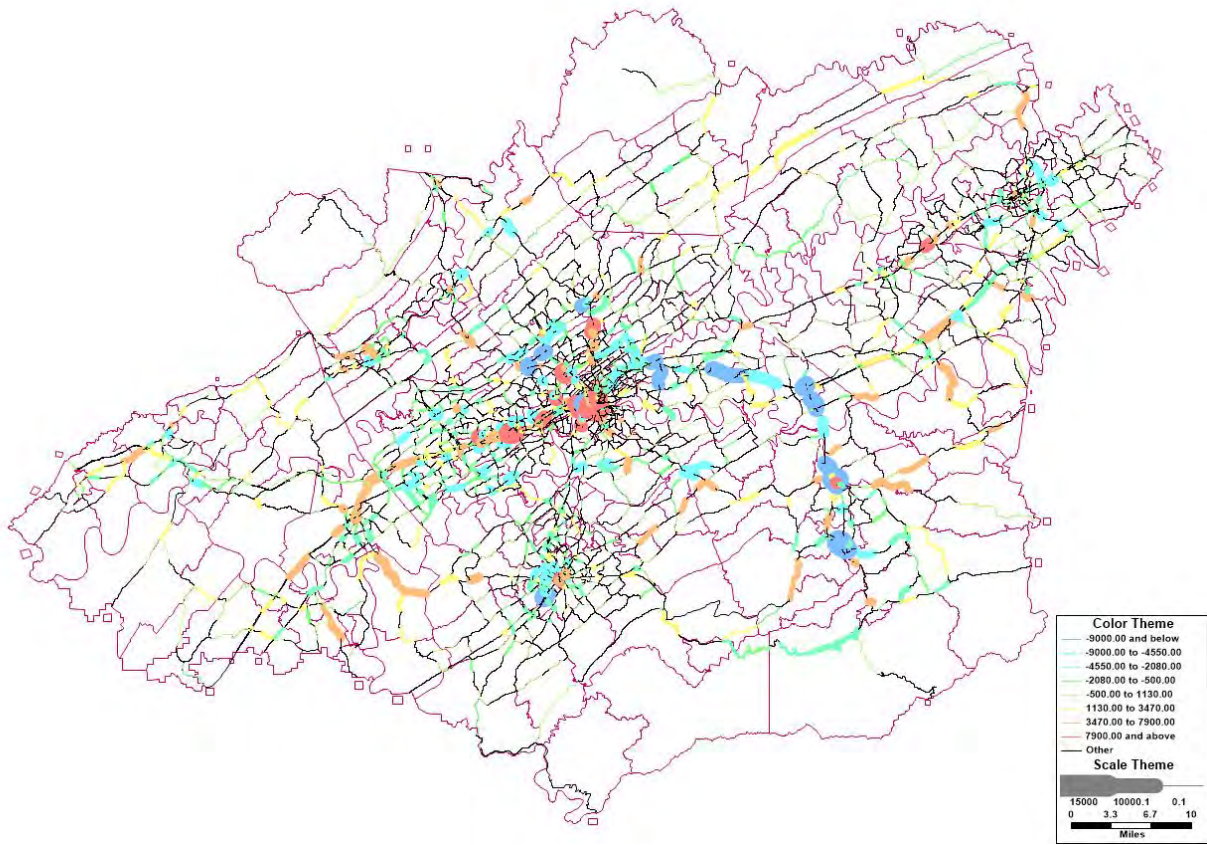


Figure 14. Model Loading Errors

Error statistics reported and used for diagnosing the possible sources of model error are:

- percent root mean square errors,
- systemwide average error,
- mean loading errors and percentage errors, and
- total VMT and percentage errors.

Attention is always needed to the traffic counts, themselves, since the validation is only as good as the counts. In the course of the model’s validation, several suspicious counts were identified and removed or corrected in coordination with the TPO and TDOT. Arterial and collector counts appeared to be fine, but freeway counts appeared to have issues. This has been the case in at least the last four model validations for the region going back to at least 2004. The two issues which have indicated issues with the freeway counts have been large year-to-year variations and inconsistencies of counts at interchanges (where the sum of the counts going into a link do not equal the value of the count on the link). As in the past, suspicious freeway counts were reviewed and revised to improve their consistency with other counts (upstream and downstream as well as across years). Roughly one third (57 of 176) of all freeway counts were revised. The average adjustment was just over 1,700 or just under 5% of the count value. Thus, the adjustments were generally not large, but they were significant.

The Minimum Travel Demand Model Calibration and Validation Guidelines for State of Tennessee Updated 2016 identifies several guidelines for demonstrating that a model is well calibrated. However, as the document itself is clear to state, the fulfillment of these guidelines does not ensure that a model is well validated nor does the failure of a model to meet every target or standard mean the model is necessarily not well calibrated. The tables below correspond to the standards adopted by TNMUG. In each case they compare the modeled traffic volumes to observed traffic counts. A variety of error statistics are used. Most of the guidelines focus on the simple Percent Error.

Table 16 shows the three standards based on percent difference in value (by classification, by volume group, and by screenline). The model clearly meets all the standards (including preferred) with the exception of one sceneline which exceeds the standard by less than half a percent. This represents very good fit.

Table 16. Percent Difference in Volume Standards

| Classification | Acceptable | Preferred | Model Value | Pass / Fail | Average Count | Average Modeled | Number of Observations |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Freeways | 7% | 6% | 1.9% | Pass | 17,376 | 17,576 | 447 |
| Arterials | 15% | 10% | -2.4% | Pass | 14,277 | 13,920 | 601 |
| Collectors | 25% | 20% | -11.5% | Pass | 3,688 | 3,300 | 1,211 |
| Volume Group | Acceptable | Preferred | Model Value | Pass / Fail | Average Count | Average Modeled | Number of Observations |
| 0 - 1000 | 200% | 60% | 45.6% | Pass | 634 | 947 | 188 |
| 1001 - 2,500 | 100% | 47% | -3.6% | Pass | 1,721 | 1,810 | 332 |
| 2,501 - 5,000 | 50% | 36% | -0.5% | Pass | 3,626 | 3,620 | 330 |
| 5,001 - 10,000 | 29% | 25% | -4.5% | Pass | 7,192 | 6,876 | 395 |
| 10,001 - 25,000 | 25% | 20% | -2.2% | Pass | 15,903 | 15,534 | 400 |
| 25,001 - 50,000 | 22% | 15% | -1.3% | Pass | 33,426 | 32,777 | 172 |
| > 50,000 | 21% | 10% | -0.6% | Pass | 71,964 | 71,010 | 32 |
| Screenline | Standard | | Model Value | Pass / Fail | Average Count | Average Modeled | Number of Observations |
| External | 1% | | 0.6% | Pass | 10,304 | 10,241 | 33 |
| Knox+Blount | 10% | | 5.9% | Pass | 12,913 | 13,448 | 21 |
| Knox | 10% | | 6.8% | Pass | 19,942 | 21,157 | 39 |
| Blount | 10% | | 2.1% | Pass | 11,722 | 12,002 | 10 |
| Rivers | 10% | | 7.2% | Pass | 18,451 | 19,676 | 19 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-------|------|--------|--------|----|
| InnerKnoxville | 10% | 6.6% | Pass | 24,847 | 26,459 | 19 |
| West Counties | 10% | 10.5% | Fail | 19,236 | 21,264 | 10 |
| East Counties | 15% | 7.6% | Pass | 6,589 | 7,544 | 7 |
| North Counties | 15% | 10.1% | Pass | 5,243 | 5,781 | 8 |
| Knox-Blount | 15% | 3.6% | Pass | 18,815 | 19,543 | 8 |
| NW Counties | 20% | 12.6% | Pass | 2,367 | 2,663 | 8 |

Figure 14 plots the difference between the model volumes and traffic counts. It also displays the line of fit and coefficient of determination (R^2). The TNMUG standard for R^2 is 0.88. The model clearly exceeds this at a value of 0.95.

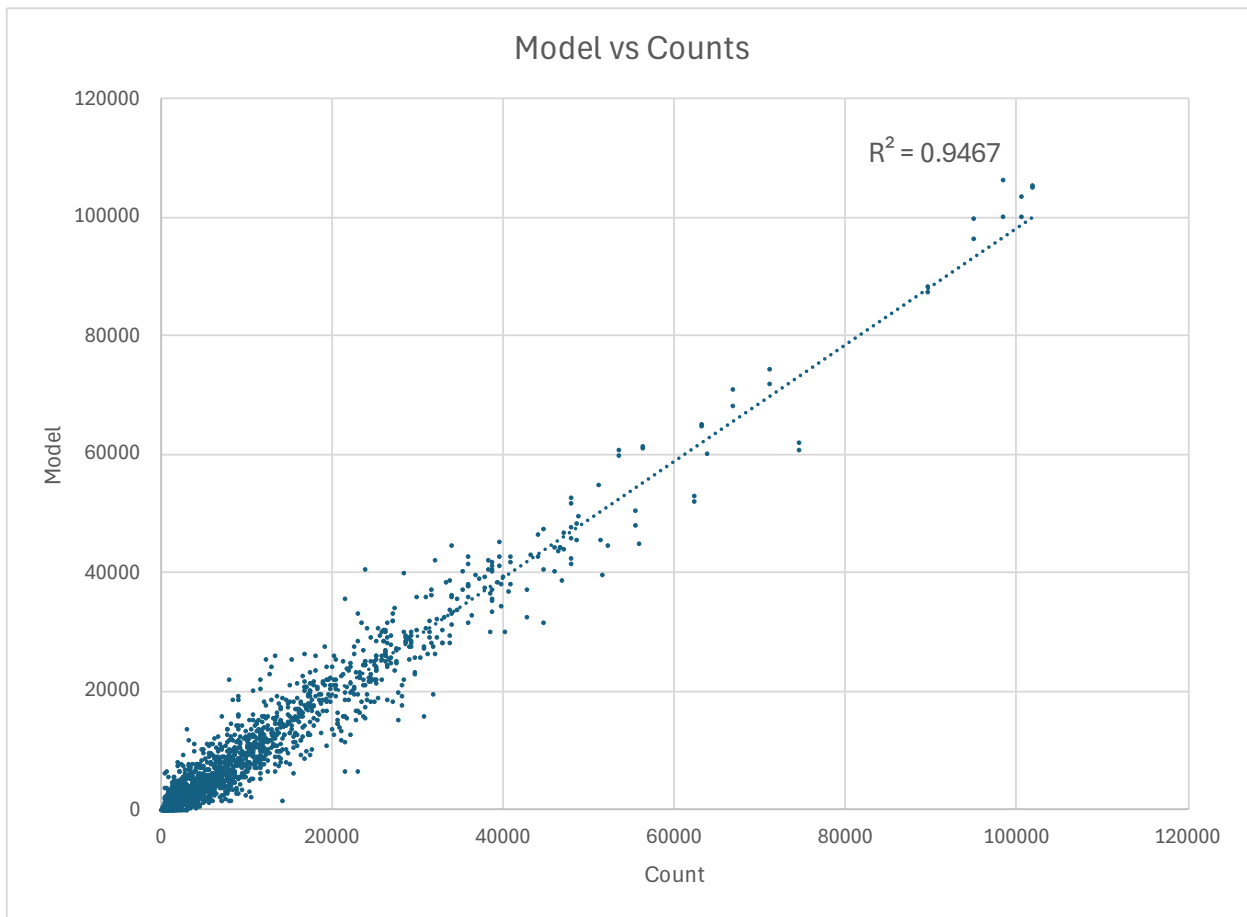


Figure 15. Scatterplot of Model Volumes versus Traffic Counts

Table 17 compares the model to the TNMUG standards for root mean square error. The Percent Root Mean Square Error (% RMSE) is used in addition to percent error and is the traditional and perhaps the single best overall error statistic for comparing loadings to counts. It has the following mathematical formulation:

$$\%RMSE = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\sum(\text{Count} - \text{Loading})^2}{\text{Number of Observations}}}}{\text{Average Count}} \times 100$$

The model meets the TNMUG standard for Acceptable for all categories and exceeds the Preferred for several categories and for the model overall.

Table 17. Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) Standards

| Classification | Standard | | Model Value | Pass / Fail | Average Count | Average Modeled | Number of Observations |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Freeways | 20% | | 18.4% | Pass | 17,376 | 17,576 | 447 |
| Major Arterials | 35% | | 21.1% | Pass | 19,805 | 20,412 | 231 |
| Minor Arterials | 50% | | 31.2% | Pass | 10,825 | 9,867 | 370 |
| Collectors | 60% | | 58.6% | Pass | 3,688 | 3,300 | 1,209 |
| Volume Group | Acceptable | Preferred | Model Value | Pass / Fail | Average Count | Average Modeled | Number of Observations |
| 0 – 4,999 | 100% | 45% | 71.9% | Pass | 2,217 | 2,319 | 849 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | 45% | 35% | 39.6% | Pass | 7,192 | 6,876 | 395 |
| 10,000 - 14,999 | 35% | 27% | 29.4% | Pass | 12,118 | 11,884 | 194 |
| 15,00 - 19,999 | 30% | 25% | 21.8% | Pass | 17,178 | 17,264 | 118 |
| 20,000 - 29,999 | 27% | 15% | 20.2% | Pass | 24,632 | 23,746 | 162 |
| 30,000 - 49,999 | 25% | 15% | 11.3% | Pass | 38,186 | 37,366 | 98 |
| 50,000 - 59,999 | 20% | 10% | 11.0% | Pass | 53,864 | 52,114 | 11 |
| 60,000+ | 19% | 10% | 7.1% | Pass | 81,446 | 80,908 | 21 |
| All | 45% | 35% | 28.8% | Pass | 10,355 | 10,178 | 1,848 |

The model meets all of the assignment validation standards set forth *Minimum Travel Demand Model Calibration and Validation Guidelines for State of Tennessee* with the exception of one screenline which is very close to the standard and may be attributable to small errors in the counts. The 2022 base year model performs very similarly, but perhaps just slightly better than the 2018 model (28.8% vs 31.3% RMSE, 0.95 vs 0.94 R²) which was considered well validated. It is reasonable to conclude that the model is well calibrated and validated by observed traffic counts.

Finally, as an additional check, total Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) by functional classification from the model for the base year 2022 was compared to actual FHWA Highway Performance Management System (HPMS) data. Table 18 shows that the model is reasonably replicating total traffic and only minor adjustments will need to be utilized for the on-road mobile source emissions analyses for transportation conformity determinations.

Table 18. Model VMT versus HPMS VMT for Base Year 2022

| | Rural Int | Rural Principal Arterial | Rural Minor Arterial | Rural Major Collector | Rural Minor Collector | Rural Local | Urban Int | Urban Freeway | Urban Principal Arterial | Urban Minor Arterial | Urban Major Collector | Urban Minor Collector | Urban Local | Total |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
| ANDERSON HPMS | 471,999 | 36,077 | - | 163,454 | 73,452 | 56,613 | 152,673 | - | 741,200 | 278,791 | 110,751 | 67,115 | 462,210 | 2,614,335 |
| ANDERSON Model | 481,397 | 29,543 | - | 138,741 | 11,320 | 6,005 | 156,492 | - | 732,056 | 258,945 | 81,154 | 36,067 | 13,366 | 1,945,087 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.98 | 1.22 | N/A | 1.19 | 6.49 | 9.43 | 0.98 | N/A | 1.01 | 1.08 | 1.36 | 1.86 | 34.59 | 1.34 |
| BLOUNT HPMS | - | 220,214 | 102,428 | 73,748 | 37,785 | 112,124 | 95,666 | 39,187 | 1,121,995 | 517,890 | 289,484 | 213,705 | 743,306 | 3,567,522 |
| BLOUNT Model | - | 247,432 | 112,740 | 71,381 | 26,051 | 17,321 | 95,796 | 42,598 | 1,125,981 | 472,064 | 189,590 | 151,843 | 21,383 | 2,574,183 |
| HPMS Factor | N/A | 0.89 | 0.91 | 1.03 | 1.45 | 6.47 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.53 | 1.41 | 34.76 | 1.39 |
| HAMBLEN HPMS | 345,793 | 19,066 | - | 54,452 | 45,409 | 55,520 | 38,626 | - | 794,225 | 234,371 | 153,033 | 29,907 | 299,739 | 2,069,041 |
| HAMBLEN Model | 403,524 | 2,049 | - | 61,762 | 15,305 | 1,953 | 28,574 | - | 702,425 | 204,169 | 101,398 | 9,776 | 11,876 | 1,540,811 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.86 | 8.82 | N/A | 0.88 | 2.97 | 28.42 | 1.45 | N/A | 1.13 | 1.15 | 1.51 | 3.05 | 25.24 | 1.34 |
| JEFFERSON HPMS | 1,547,244 | 20,930 | 369,499 | 220,565 | 137,452 | 148,336 | 33,266 | - | 165,287 | 91,143 | 17,147 | 6,276 | 49,185 | 2,796,331 |
| JEFFERSON Model | 1,588,236 | - | 432,327 | 329,280 | 95,722 | 11,061 | 42,042 | - | 188,018 | 86,198 | 13,661 | 3,605 | 2,500 | 2,792,648 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.97 | N/A | 0.83 | 0.67 | 1.44 | 13.41 | 0.79 | N/A | 0.88 | 1.06 | 1.26 | 1.74 | 19.67 | 1.00 |
| KNOX HPMS | 684,474 | - | 96,594 | 115,954 | 115,223 | 126,976 | 6,304,386 | 124,458 | 2,519,910 | 2,582,899 | 795,257 | 711,990 | 3,458,742 | 17,636,853 |
| KNOX Model | 647,239 | - | 107,893 | 103,803 | 91,804 | 20,865 | 5,685,272 | 95,468 | 2,503,585 | 2,140,622 | 652,935 | 553,679 | 236,561 | 12,839,927 |
| HPMS Factor | 1.06 | N/A | 0.90 | 1.12 | 1.25 | 6.09 | 1.11 | 1.30 | 1.01 | 1.21 | 1.22 | 1.29 | 14.62 | 1.37 |
| LOUDON HPMS | 461,656 | 134,626 | 73,623 | 46,462 | 61,973 | 53,767 | 793,014 | - | 279,284 | 275,349 | 60,456 | 59,552 | 199,024 | 2,498,786 |
| LOUDON Model | 510,227 | 167,569 | 113,018 | 60,485 | 22,669 | - | 908,837 | - | 277,182 | 290,461 | 33,061 | 21,696 | 326 | 2,405,532 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.90 | 0.80 | 0.65 | 0.77 | 2.73 | N/A | 0.87 | N/A | 1.01 | 0.95 | 1.83 | 2.74 | 610.78 | 1.04 |
| ROANE HPMS | 330,047 | 64,347 | 80,987 | 58,101 | 56,102 | 64,632 | 701,249 | - | 382,229 | 205,383 | 27,032 | 46,294 | 124,699 | 2,121,102 |
| ROANE Model | 343,291 | 68,956 | 87,644 | 54,487 | 11,902 | - | 687,259 | - | 410,112 | 152,854 | 20,541 | 22,561 | 17,611 | 1,877,218 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.96 | 0.93 | 0.92 | 1.07 | 4.71 | N/A | 1.02 | N/A | 0.88 | 1.34 | 1.32 | 2.05 | 7.08 | 1.13 |
| SEVIER HPMS | - | 221,771 | 527,198 | 184,606 | 163,796 | 542,714 | 371,369 | - | 1,352,602 | 231,582 | 273,622 | 54,448 | 684,574 | 4,608,282 |
| SEVIER Model | - | 221,683 | 567,606 | 193,271 | 54,572 | 48,421 | 360,311 | - | 1,118,487 | 325,371 | 195,290 | 26,825 | 27,324 | 3,139,162 |
| HPMS Factor | N/A | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.95 | 3.00 | 11.21 | 1.03 | N/A | 1.21 | 0.71 | 1.40 | 2.03 | 25.05 | 1.47 |

| | Total Interstate | Total Principal Arterial | Total Minor Arterial | Total Major Collector | Total Minor Collector | Total Local |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| ANDERSON HPMS | 624,672 | 777,277 | 278,791 | 274,205 | 140,567 | 518,823 |
| ANDERSON Model | 637,889 | 761,599 | 258,945 | 219,896 | 47,388 | 19,371 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.98 | 1.02 | 1.08 | 1.25 | 2.97 | 26.78 |
| BLOUNT HPMS | 95,656 | 1,342,209 | 620,318 | 363,232 | 251,490 | 855,430 |
| BLOUNT Model | 95,798 | 1,373,413 | 584,804 | 260,971 | 177,894 | 38,704 |
| HPMS Factor | 1.00 | 0.98 | 1.06 | 1.39 | 1.41 | 22.10 |
| HAMBLEN HPMS | 384,419 | 812,291 | 234,371 | 207,485 | 75,216 | 355,259 |
| HAMBLEN Model | 430,099 | 704,474 | 204,169 | 163,159 | 25,081 | 13,830 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.89 | 1.15 | 1.15 | 1.27 | 3.00 | 25.69 |
| JEFFERSON HPMS | 1,580,510 | 186,217 | 450,642 | 237,713 | 143,728 | 197,521 |
| JEFFERSON Model | 1,630,278 | 188,018 | 518,525 | 342,940 | 99,327 | 13,561 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.97 | 0.99 | 0.87 | 0.69 | 1.45 | 14.57 |
| KNOX HPMS | 6,988,860 | 2,519,910 | 2,679,483 | 911,211 | 827,213 | 3,585,718 |
| KNOX Model | 6,332,511 | 2,503,585 | 2,248,515 | 756,739 | 645,683 | 257,426 |
| HPMS Factor | 1.10 | 1.01 | 1.19 | 1.20 | 1.28 | 13.93 |
| LOUDON HPMS | 1,254,670 | 413,910 | 348,972 | 106,918 | 121,525 | 252,791 |
| LOUDON Model | 1,419,064 | 444,751 | 403,478 | 93,547 | 44,366 | 326 |
| HPMS Factor | 0.88 | 0.93 | 0.86 | 1.14 | 2.74 | 775.79 |
| ROANE HPMS | 1,031,296 | 426,576 | 286,370 | 85,133 | 102,396 | 189,331 |
| ROANE Model | 1,030,550 | 479,068 | 240,498 | 75,029 | 34,462 | 17,611 |
| HPMS Factor | 1.00 | 0.89 | 1.19 | 1.13 | 2.97 | 10.75 |
| SEVIER HPMS | 371,369 | 1,574,373 | 758,780 | 458,228 | 218,244 | 1,227,288 |
| SEVIER Model | 360,311 | 1,340,170 | 892,977 | 388,561 | 81,397 | 75,744 |
| HPMS Factor | 1.03 | 1.17 | 0.85 | 1.18 | 2.68 | 16.20 |